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Five-time champ

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Egypt: Impasse risks violence

Netanyahu blames PA for failing to keep commitments

By HERB KEINON, STEVE RODAN, and news agencies

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned yesterday, after a summit with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein, that the deadlock in peace talks and Israel's plan to expand Jerusalem could ignite violence that may prove unstoppable.

A top PA official said, meanwhile, that the Oslo Accords are dead and warned that last week's confrontation in Gaza between Palestinians and the IDF could lead to eruptions throughout the West Bank.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu deflected the criticism, placing the blame for the impasse in the peace process squarely on the PA.

"The present situation is very difficult," Mubarak told a news conference in Cairo, flanked by Arafat and Hussein. "We're afraid that if the situation continues in this manner, violence will erupt. The Israeli government must understand that if the danger begins, the situation will be very difficult to control."

Netanyahu countered that. "The agreement on the second redeployment is being held up by the Palestinian side's failure to keep its commitments."

The prime minister said that "Israel expects the Palestinians to fulfill these obligations in practice: by detaining terrorists, collecting illegal arms, outlawing terrorist organizations, stopping incitement against Israel, reducing the Palestinian Police to the number prescribed by the Oslo agreement, handing over murderers, and canceling the Palestinian Covenant, which calls for Israel's destruction.

"Threats and violence are not the way to make progress in the peace negotiations," Netanyahu added.

The prime minister also took a jab at the very convening of the summit.

"Israel is working toward the achievement of a peace agreement with the Palestinians," he said. "There is no substitute for direct bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, disrupted by the Palestinian Authority 15 months ago."

Netanyahu called on Jordan and Egypt to influence the PA to live up to its commitments under the Oslo Accords.

The plan to extend Jerusalem's municipal services, approved June 21 by the cabinet, also calls for the annexation of Jewish suburbs inside Israel to ensure a Jewish majority of 70 percent in Jerusalem, where the PA hopes to set up the capital of a future state.

The three leaders urged Israel to rescind the decision, and Mubarak warned that the situation "will hurt the Israeli people."

Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Illan, said that by convening the summit, "the Palestinians are hoping to create pressure on Israel. This will not work."

PA cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdul Rahman told the Voice of Palestine radio station that a full Arab summit should be convened at which Arab countries would take action against Israel.

Mubarak said such a summit would be convened only at the "appropriate time" as a last resort.

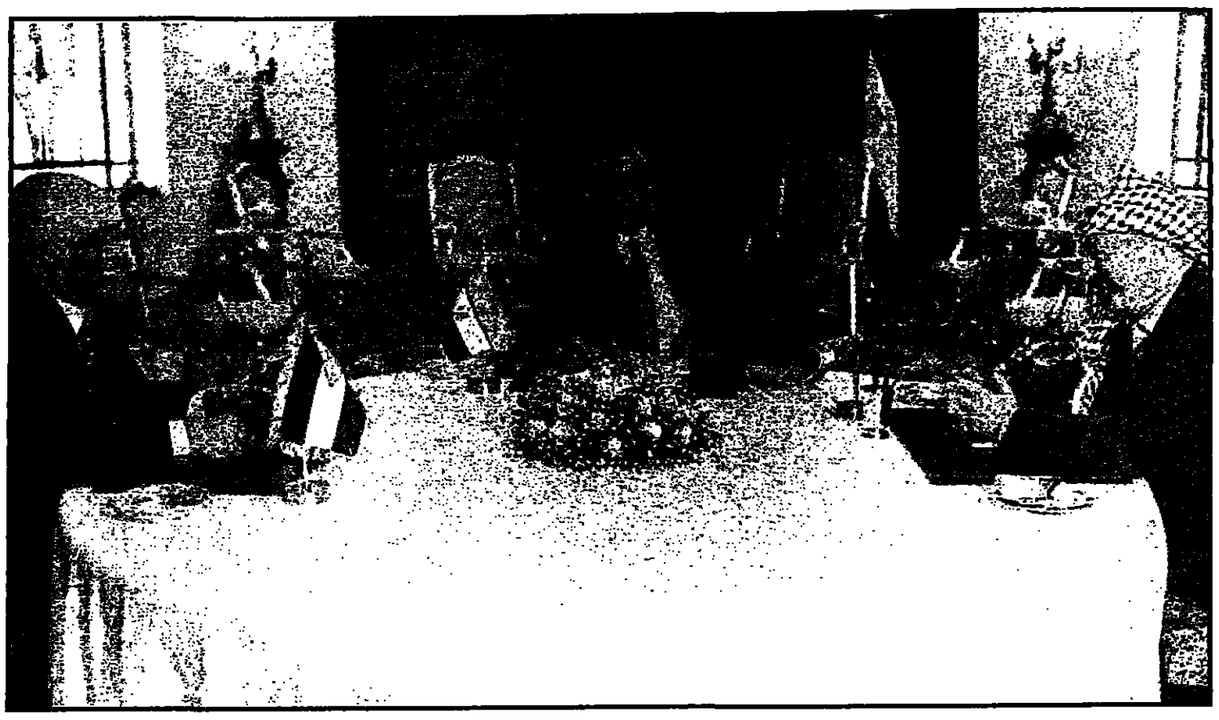
"We say that [the peace process] is dead, that it is dying and that the American side is planting in us false hopes. Because of this, the sole outcome in the territory is that Israel is stealing our land, destroying our homes and changing our history," Abdul Rahman said.

Gaza Preventive Security chief Mohammed Dahlan warned of a "hot summer" of confrontations between Palestinians and Jewish settlers. "I believe that the situation could explode at any moment."

PA-aligned newspapers quoted similar warnings by senior Palestinian officials, saying the standoff between PA and Israeli forces in Gaza over the weekend could signal the start of the breakdown of relations.

Abdul Rahman also called on Arab countries to freeze relations with Israel until it agrees to implement the interim accords with the Palestinians. He termed Netanyahu an "arrogant man who is committed to the settlements, to raiding and seizing land."

See IMPASSE, Page 2



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak meets with Jordan's King Hussein (left) and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Cairo yesterday. (AP)

Cabinet criticizes resolution of Gaza standoff

By HERB KEINON

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was not being forthright when he told the cabinet he was satisfied with the agreement that put an end Friday morning to the Palestinian blockade of roads in Gush Katif, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon said at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

Netanyahu was criticized by several ministers, who said the IDF had caved in to Palestinian violence. But he defended the agreement reached with the Palestinians, saying that it avoided bloodshed, while not altering the status quo on the region's roads.

Samia dresses down Dahlan on blockade, Page 2

Sharon, however, told the cabinet that in a discussion with him Friday night, the prime minister said that neither he, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai or Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak were happy with the way the crisis was handled.

Sharon reportedly said to Netanyahu, "You say now that you have no criticism [of the way the crisis was solved], but Friday night you told me on the phone that you, the defense minister and the chief of staff were not happy with the solution. I would like to know what the truth is."

Netanyahu told the cabinet that what he told Sharon was in a private conversation.

After the cabinet meeting, the prime minister said, "I give full backing to the IDF in its activity on the Gaza Coast.

"What is important is not the tactical details, how the arrangement was reached. What is important is that both of the directives the defense minister and I gave were carried out, that the status of the road will not be changed as a result of the Palestinian haggling and that, to the extent that is possible, an agreement will be reached without bloodshed."

Netanyahu told the cabinet that the government would not alter arrangements on Gaza roads because of the Palestinian blockade.

The crisis in Gush Katif was resolved when the IDF agreed to discuss with the Palestinians the arrangements on the roads in Gaza and allowed the convoy of trucks that precipitated the crisis to pass on the Gaza coast road, in exchange for an end to the Palestinian blockade of the roads.

"The PA must understand that attempts to violate the agreement – on traffic routes or in any other place – will be met with the complete refusal of Israel, which will know how to take appropriate measures to ensure the security of its citizens.

"Thankfully, the events ended without bloodshed, but nobody should be mistaken: Israel will not agree to changes in the status quo under such circumstances," Netanyahu said.

Mordechai, responding to criticism that Israel caved in to Palestinian demands, said that the Palestinians failed to achieve their desired objective.

"They had wanted the road to be opened on a permanent basis, but Israel insisted upon returning to the situation that preceded the incident," he said. "No route has been opened as a result of it having been traveled on one occasion."

See GAZA, Page 2

Authorities fear Hebron attacks may be organized

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Security officials are concerned that the recent series of attacks on Arab property in the Hebron area may be the work of an organized group.

Yesterday morning, four vegetable stalls belonging to Palestinians near the Avraham Avinu enclave in Hebron were torched. Police are still trying to determine whether the arson was carried out by persons involved in Friday's vandalism and if the recent incidents are the work of an extremist underground.

Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan said police are taking steps to put a halt to the wave of violent attacks on Arab property. He refused to divulge details, but said police are still seeking two of the suspects involved in Friday's attack.

Remand of suspected Hebron 'horseman,' Page 2

Netanel Nir, one of several persons who allegedly participated in a horseback assault on Arab property on Friday in Hebron, has been arrested.

"Nir is not cooperating with police and is maintaining the right to remain silent," said Sivan.

Former police inspector-general Assaf Hefetz said yesterday that police assisted the IDF operating in the area in quelling attacks by extremists on both sides.

"I hope it doesn't mark the establishment of an 'underground.' Security forces must be alert and intelligence must be strong in order to prevent or quell such incidents," Hefetz said.

Hefetz warned that as decisions by the government on a further West Bank withdrawal become imminent, extremists on both sides may attempt to cause disturbances.

See HEBRON, Page 2

Tichon: Knesset will protect itself from overly activist Supreme Court

By DAN IZENBERG

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon assailed the High Court of Justice yesterday, warning Supreme Court President Aharon Barak that if the courts continue to trespass on the prerogatives of the Knesset, the Knesset will pass laws to safeguard its sovereignty.

Tichon spoke at the opening session of a three-day colloquium marking the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court.

Barak did not directly respond to Tichon's comments in his own speech, which had been prepared in advance. He remained impassive during Tichon's remarks.

Tichon charged that "Barak does not always remember to respect the balance between the two institutions. He himself said the Knesset must handle its affairs as it sees fit.

"If the court views itself as in a position to judge Knesset decisions, the Knesset will not be able to fulfill its duties properly. It is obvious to all of us that the crossing of the red line [by the court] will lead to a response by the Knesset in the form of laws which circumvent High Court of Justice rulings.

"It will be a very sad day if the Knesset resorts to such drastic measures and this undesirable process should be avoided at any cost."

In his speech, Barak surveyed the history of the legislative and judicial developments of the country, and divided them into four eras.

The fourth, he said, began with passage of the Direct Election of Prime Ministers Law, the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom and the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation. Barak said that basic laws had changed Israel from a "parliamentary democracy to a constitutional democracy.

"At the top of the pyramid is the constitution. No Knesset law may contradict the constitution. When there is a contradiction, the law is unconstitutional. The High Court is entitled to declared the unconstitutionality of the law and to nullify it."

The High Court has already rejected a law aimed at banning the import of non-kosher meat because it violated the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation. In this case, the Knesset passed an amendment to circumvent the decision.

The High Court in the past has also declared Knesset procedures inappropriate. It is currently hearing two petitions calling for nullification of a decision last month by the Knesset House Committee to postpone by three months the vote on a request by the attorney-general to lift Shas MK Aryeh Deri's parliamentary immunity.

Israel negotiating to buy Algerian gas

By DAVID HARRIS

The Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) is negotiating to purchase gas produced in Algeria, according to a senior industry source.

The company is holding talks with Australian multinational BHP, which produces liquefied natural gas (LNG) in Algeria. Presently, Israel has no diplomatic ties with Algeria and does not publish details of trade with the North African state.

Jerusalem sources suggested last night there is little chance that Israel would be prepared to buy LNG from Algeria or that Algiers would permit such a sale.

IEC spokesman David Golan would neither confirm nor deny that such talks are taking place.

In a statement to *The Jerusalem Post*, the National Infrastructure Ministry said that, as part of the negotiations, letters of intent have been signed with a number of potential suppliers. But "owing to commercial secrecy, we cannot give details at this stage."

This is the first time either the ministry or IEC has admitted that such documents have been signed.

While ministry spokesman Ra'anan Gissin would not name the possible suppliers, in previous statements the ministry has said it is in talks with an Australian firm.

See GAS, Page 2

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NEWS
in brief

Yassin: Hamas will continue jihad

Hamas is determined to continue a holy war against Israel, Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin told the Austrian daily *Der Standard* in an interview published yesterday. "We have made up our mind, to relaunch the jihad and the resistance[against Israel], by all means and at all appropriate opportunities," he said. "We do not care how many more victims we shall have to sacrifice, how many more martyrs the struggle will demand. We have a noble goal and a solid commitment to hear it." *Eldad Beck*

IDF surprised by Syrian COS reshuffle

IDF Intelligence was surprised by last week's dismissal of veteran Syrian Chief of Staff Gen. Hikmat Shehabi, but does not believe it signifies any intention to change the present security situation with Israel. "It surprised us," said one senior intelligence officer. "There were no hints that this was about to happen, as there might have been in Israel. But we are sure Shehabi must have seen it coming."

Shehabi was involved in preliminary peace negotiations with senior IDF officers before these were cut off in early 1996. Intelligence officials said they do not believe that Shehabi's replacement is in any way related to peace negotiations or any sign there was to be a change in the present situation. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Turkish FM arrives today

Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem is scheduled to arrive today for a four-day visit, further cementing growing ties between Turkey and Israel. During Cem's visit, his first as foreign minister, he will meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, President Ezer Weizman, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, and Labor party head Ehud Barak. A foreign Ministry official said this visit will not center on military ties, but rather on the growing normalization between the two countries. Cem is not coming to sign any particular agreement, the official said. Cem is scheduled to meet with Palestinian Authority officials on Wednesday. *Herb Keinon*

US Reform Jews plan fund-raising campaign

The American Reform movement is said to be preparing a new, independent campaign to raise money for its Israeli institutions during the High Holidays, the traditional season for Diaspora fund-raising, when Jews are almost certain to attend services.

The Reform plan would face some hefty competition, as a variety of institutions and organizations target the same captive audiences, making the holidays prime fund-raisers for local congregations, federations and United Jewish Appeal, and Israel Bonds.

Privately, the leaders of the Reform movement have acknowledged that they have had a hard time raising substantial sums from their flocks for programs in Israel. *Marilyn Henry*

Bentsur: Let's let US initiatives play out

Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur said that while Israel is not rejecting out of hand an Egyptian-French initiative to hold an international conference to help move the stalled peace process, "we thing that we must let the American initiative play itself out."

He made the remarks following a meeting with Jean-Claude Cousseran, the French Foreign Ministry's deputy director-general for Middle East affairs, who arrived here after discussing the proposal in Egypt.

According to the proposal, various countries would meet in two stages; first without the Israelis and Palestinians participating, and then with their participation. Bentsur said Israel does not believe any such meeting should take place without its participation. *— Itim*

US rabbinical court sets up shop here to free 'agunot'

By HAIM SHAPIRO

An American Orthodox rabbi who sees his mission as freeing *agunot* from their plight is inviting all such women, whose husbands refuse to grant them a divorce, to come to Jerusalem's Moriah Hotel, where he promises to resolve their situation.

"Any woman who has a problem and can't get a *get* [religious divorce], and the rabbinate, true to its colors, does absolutely nothing, can come," said Rabbi Moshe Morgenstern of New York.

Morgenstern said yesterday that a rabbinical court, composed of himself, Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, chancellor emeritus of Bar-Ilan University, and Rabbi Kasriel Meyer of Israel, would free any woman after hearing her case and finding that it was meritorious.

Women coming should bring their rabbinical court file, he added.

Morgenstern's rabbinical court would convene from 2 p.m. today, tomorrow and Wednesday, he said, and if necessary, it would continue after that.

Morgenstein, who said that his *smicha* (ordination) is from the late rabbi Moshe Feinstein, said he had already dissolved the marriages of 170 women, including 46 women in Jerusalem in February. He did so by declaring a marriage null and void, but at the same time granting a *get* by proxy. It was, he said, a method approved by a minority of halachic arbiters, but he added that rabbinical rulings indicated that to free an aguna, it is permissible to follow a minority view.

Admitting that his divorces are not recognized by the Israeli rabbinical courts, Morgenstern said that if the official rabbinate in Israel would not remarry such a woman, she could come to the US, where he would officiate.

He would, he said, fly her to the US or marry her at the American consulate or in the Palestinian-controlled areas.

There is no danger, he insisted, that a child of such a marriage would be considered a mamzer, the product of a forbidden union, unable to marry other Jews.

While this rabbinical court has won kudos from women's groups, it has drawn opposition from Agudath Israel of America, which charges that the court is "unworthy of the name" and says its principals have "no standing as decisors."

Morgenstern said that he had no fear of rabbinical wrath. He himself made a living as an accountant and thus was not dependent on any rabbinical body.

He had nothing but scorn for the official rabbinate, which, he said, had refused to ameliorate the plight of even such extreme cases as a women whose husband had converted to Islam and refused to grant a *get* until she gave him custody of the children and allowed him to raise them as Moslems.

Rabbi Eli Ben-Dahan, director of the rabbinical courts, said yesterday that it is not true that the rabbinical courts were insensitive to the plight of the agunot.

He suggested, moreover, that local rabbinical court judges do not consider the procedures being used by these American rabbis halachically sound.

"Believe me, the rabbinical court judges know the procedures he is talking about. If they don't use them, it is for a reason," Ben-Dahan said.

Suspected 'Hebron horseman' held for 5 days

By AMY KLEIN

The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday remanded Netanel Nir for five days on suspicion of attacking Arabs and destroying their property in Hebron on Friday night.

The prosecution claimed that Nir, 19, was part of a group of youths that first attacked two Arab bicyclists. Later, three of the young men, wearing keffiyehs and riding horses, used chains to smash car windshields.

Judea and Samaria police are still searching for the two other suspects. Police also suspect Nir of torching cars in Hebron during the past month.

Nir, a resident of the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem's Old City, sat nervously in the courtroom and passed notes to his father, Shaul, a convicted member of the Jewish terrorist underground, whose life sentence for a 1983 attack on Hebron's Islamic College, which killed three people, was commuted.

A police representative said that on Friday, at about 9 p.m., the group went from the Machpela Cave in Hebron toward Kiryat Arba and on the way hit two Arab bicyclists with nunchakus, a martial arts weapon consisting of two hardwood handles joined by a length of chain.

Immediately after the attack, the police representative said, the youths went to the house of the Driben family, whose son, Dov, was killed by Arabs on April 20 at a ranch in the southern Hebron Hills.

Three of the youths then returned to the Arab houses on the other side of the Kiryat Arba fence and smashed car windshields with nunchakus, the police said.

Nir's lawyer, Naftali Wertzberger, said that the fact Nir was apprehended a few hundred meters from the crime scene wearing a keffiyeh and riding a horse did not prove he was involved. Nor was the fact Nir had nunchakus on him incriminating, said Wertzberger, since they are a "popular weapon which many Hebron residents carry."



A grinning Netanel Nir is brought to Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday for a remand hearing. (Brian Hendler)

PA asks court to delay suit by terror victim

The Palestinian Authority has asked the Tel Aviv District Court to postpone the lawsuit filed against it by a terror victim until the UN rules on its legal status, including whether it is immune from being sued because it is a sovereign entity.

Shlomi Dan has filed a NIS 5 million lawsuit against the PA for the wounds and seriously disabled he suffered in the suicide bombing at Dizengoff Center two-and-a-half years ago.

Dan claimed that just as Israel pays Palestinians compensation if they are hurt, the PLO and PA should compensate Israelis for its negligence in preventing their injury.

The PA asked for a six-month delay in the case last week after Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein submitted a legal opinion, based on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's statements as foreign minister, that the PA is not immune to being sued as it does not qualify as a sovereign state under international law.

The PA said that due to the breakdown in the peace process, it has turned to the UN, the US and asked them to evaluate its status, based on the Oslo Accords.

An Israeli court cannot rule on this, since it is a very sensitive question and the decision could seriously damage the peace process, the PA claimed.

Both sides are scheduled to hand in summaries on the immunity issue in the coming weeks, after which Judge Sarah Brosh will decide on whether to let the suit proceed. (Itim)

Samia, Dahlan discuss Gaza standoff

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Yom Tov Samia and Palestinian Preventive Security Chief in Gaza Mohammed Dahlan discussed last Thursday's events in Gaza at a meeting yesterday.

The IDF Spokesman said Samia stressed to Dahlan that it is "unacceptable" that the Palestinians block roads leading to Gush Katif settlements, as they did on Thursday after Palestinian Authority Supplies Minister Abu Ali Shahin and a convoy of some 30 trucks were refused permission to travel on an Israeli-controlled road in Gaza. Both sides agreed the compromise reached early Friday morning prevented bloodshed.

Samia stressed, however, that the Palestinians should not perceive the compromise – allowing Shahin and the trucks to travel on the disputed coastal road – as a guarantee for the future or a permanent agreement.

Samia, who was accompanied by commander of the IDF forces in the Gaza Strip, Brig.-Gen. Yoav Gallant, warned Palestinian security officers that the arrangement was a "gross exception," military sources said.

The sources said Samia told Dahlan that the agreement was reached in order not to cause bloodshed and its repeat in the future "should not be taken for granted."

Both sides agreed to take steps to further calm the tensions in the Gaza Strip and Samia and Dahlan are to meet again today.

"The idea is for dialogue. That is the message, that problems can be solved through talk," a Southern Command officer said.

Meanwhile, Palestinian officials yesterday continued to accuse Israel of not implementing the agreements it has signed and claimed that the roads to the Gush Katif settlements were closed because Israel refused to recognize that Palestinians had the right to travel along the coastal road.

At a press conference in Gaza yesterday, Dahlan gave reporters a copy of the agreement signed in Taba. "Palestinians will be free to move along the coastal road," a Palestinian official read from the agreement, adding, "I accept being under occupation controlled by the agreement for an interim period, not for a long time. Israeli officials have a copy of this on their desks, but obviously not in their heads."

Palestinian military and security officials later escorted reporters on a tour of the roads Palestinians are allowed to use in the area.

Dahlan warned that the area is on the verge of explosion.

"It could happen because of the actions of a stupid IDF soldier," he warned.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser Dr. Ahmed Tibi said yesterday that Thursday's events were proof of how disturbing the situation really is.

"The agreement signed in Taba clearly states that Palestinians can use the roads along the Gaza coast," he stressed.

He charged that the current state of affairs is similar to an apartheid policy in which settlers are allowed to roam freely while Palestinians' movement is limited.

Tibi also attacked the reports in the media, which he claimed were extremely one sided.

"Every half hour there were reports on the settlers and a woman who was airlifted to a hospital. Did you know that a pregnant Arab woman was not allowed to pass through?" he asked.

'The New York Times'

Due to technical problems at *The New York Times*, one page of the Weekly Review does not appear today.

IMPASSE
Continued from Page 1

Palestinian Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein warned of what he termed a "genocidal war" against the Palestinian people. Quoted by yesterday's *Al Quds*, Abu Medein said that PA-Israeli tensions threaten to cause much greater harm in the West Bank than in Gaza, because of what he described as "the militancy of the Jewish settlers and their armed militias."

The PA-aligned *Al Hayat al-Jadida* quoted Abu Medein as saying that the accords have ended and that the Netanyahu government wants to eliminate any gains the Palestinians have achieved.

He said he expects bloody confrontations in the West Bank over the next few days, also saying this would be the start of a "hot summer" in the territories.

GAS
Continued from Page 1

Israel must decide on its future energy sources by the end of this year, in accordance with a timetable set by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon. If by December 31 no foreign natural gas supplier has been found, Israel will have to either build a third coal-fired power station along the coast or burn up more heavy oil to generate electricity.

GAZA
Continued from Page 1

Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, said the handling of the crisis signalled to the Palestinians that violence reaps dividends.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav said the main lesson to be learned from the incident is to prevent placing key intersections in the West Bank in the hands of the PA.

Margot Dudkevitch adds:

At an emergency meeting in Kfar Darom last night, attended by some 70 Gush Katif settlement leaders, settlers vented their frustration and concerns.

Aharon Tsur, chairman of the Gaza Coast Regional Council, and members of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza decided to establish a committee to study the issue and make recommendations to the IDF regional commanders that could help prevent similar occurrences.

HEBRON
Continued from Page 1

Residents from Kiryat Arba and Hebron condemned the attacks. They said it was unfair their name is being besmirched because of the activities of several extremists.

Tzuri Popovitch, a spokesman for Kiryat Arba, said the entire community regretted the harming of Arabs.

"We hope that those who may be considering similar actions in the future will think twice. We demand that justice be meted out against the perpetrators of the act."

MK Hanan Porat (NRP) echoed the sentiment. Speaking on Israel Radio, he said, "We must under no account accept such hooliganism."

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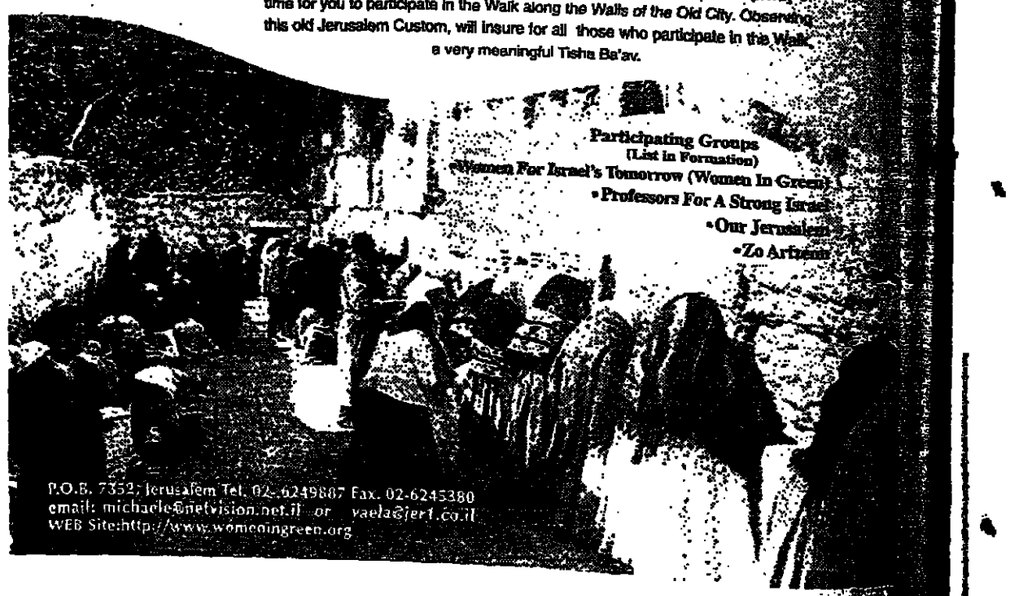
Walking around the Walls of its Old City

Motzai Shabbat, August 1, 1998.

At 9:15 P.M. • We will read Eicha near the American Consulate on Agron Street. Bring a flashlight or candle to help you follow the reading.

At 10:15 P.M. • Our Walk will begin. We will be passing the New Gate, Damascus Gate, the Flower Gate, the Lion's Gate and ending our Walk at the Dung Gate. (Near the Western Wall.) We will provide buses at the end of the Walk to return you to Agron Street. We have a Police Permit for the event. Come with your whole family, friends and neighbors to join in this old, yet most appropriate Jerusalem Custom on Tisha Ba'av evening.

Even if you have said Eicha in your own synagogue, there will still be plenty of time for you to participate in the Walk along the Walls of the Old City. Observing this old Jerusalem Custom, will insure for all those who participate in the Walk a very meaningful Tisha Ba'av.



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مكذم من الاصل

Eitan, Shalom to rotate jobs

By JUDY SIEGEL and LIAT COLLINS

Science Minister Michael Eitan is to submit his resignation tomorrow and – 48 hours later – become deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office, as part of a rotation agreement signed last year.

Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom is to become science minister for a year, after which Eitan intends to return for another year in the job. It is not clear, however, whether there will be another rotation between them.

Because of the 48-hour delay, Shalom can only assume his post when the Knesset reconvenes next week.

An aide to Shalom said the details of when exactly he would assume the post and for how long still have to be finalized.

The aide also said that Shalom expects to receive the ministry in full and be in charge of exactly the same areas that Eitan oversaw.

Eitan's aide Uri Schor said yesterday that Eitan preferred not to exchange posts with Shalom and become deputy defense minister, but he denied reports that the reason was "bad feelings" between Eitan and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Shalom will be given all the responsibilities of the science minister, Schor said, but Eitan will be handed the job of liaison between the cabinet and the Knesset and will head HILA, the government committee in charge of computerizing ministries.

Early on as science minister, Eitan declared he intended to shut it down and replace it with a powerful National Council for Scientific Research and Development.

He later regretted making the statement publicly, noting that it would have been better to set up the council in the Prime Minister's Office, and then "let everyone reach the conclusion that the ministry was superfluous."

But the ministry is still there, and there is no national council.

Schor said that in the coming days, he would issue a list of Eitan's "accomplishments" during his year as science minister.



A hawk's eye view

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon makes a point to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday on a helicopter tour of Beduin-populated areas in Ramat Hanegev. (Defense Ministry)

PM to make policy address at opposition's demand

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is to make a policy statement to the Knesset this afternoon. Since the initiative for the speech came from the opposition it is not certain whether he will say anything new.

It will be Netanyahu's first policy address to the Knesset in seven months.

The opposition demanded the statement, under a clause in the Knesset House Rules that obliges the prime minister to deliver one if at least 40 MKs sign a request.

Labor whip Elie Goldschmidt said he was "sorry" to have to use the House Rules to bring the prime minister to the Knesset.

"The prime minister has decided to simply boycott the Knesset. Since last December, he did not bother himself once to come to the Knesset to give a political statement...

"I must say we have to teach the prime minister what democracy and the Knesset are and remind him that even the ancient Roman emperors saw fit now and again to visit the Senate. It's a pity the prime minister comes only when forced to," said Goldschmidt.

Under the House Rules, the prime minister can choose whether to deliver his statement at the beginning or end of the debate and need not be present throughout. At the end of the debate, the Knesset votes on whether or not to accept the statement.

Coalition and Likud whip Meir Sheetrit responded to Goldschmidt's charges by saying that when a political-diplomatic arrangement has been formulated concerning the negotiations it will be presented to the Knesset for its approval.

"The prime minister will not be dragged along by the small tricks of the opposition and when he decides to report on the developments to the Knesset, he will do so. The prime minister comes to the Knesset every week and also regularly reports on developments to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee."

Netanyahu is scheduled to address the committee this morning before his plenum speech.

The move to force Netanyahu to address the Knesset came after a month in which the opposition brought up weekly no-confidence motions that had no chance of mustering the necessary 61 votes needed to topple the government.

The no-confidence motions were largely boycotted by coalition MKs and even the prime minister stopped turning up for the votes.

Itim adds:

Senior Labor Party members who met yesterday with party chairman Ehud Barak demanded that party members refer to Netanyahu as a liar in all their public statements.

"Netanyahu does not tell the truth when he presents a false picture of the political process, as if Israel has come to an agreement with the US and is just waiting for the Palestinians to annul their Covenant. This is a lie," MK Yossi Beilin said.

MK Haggai Merom added: "We must announce from every platform that Bibi is a liar and that we must remove the liar."

Barak himself used softer language, however, saying, "There is a feeling in the country that more and more are realizing the state is being run by someone you can't trust."

The Likud spokeswoman replied: "This is a sign of despondency, coming from a party made up of people who have no backbone."

Labor-Vilna'i meeting causes political stir

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

The revelation that Labor secretary-general Ra'anan Cohen met quietly with Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i last week, before Vilna'i suddenly resigned from the IDF caused rumblings in the Labor Party yesterday and led the Likud to accuse Labor of poaching military officers while they are still in uniform.

Cohen acknowledged yesterday that the meeting took place and that the two men discussed Vilna'i's future plans. But he denied that he formally asked Vilna'i to join Labor's ranks or that "any political subject was discussed" at the meeting.

But a Likud statement accused Labor politicians of "damaging the IDF and its leaders in their attempts to recruit military officers before they are discharged from the army."

Although he rejected the statement, Cohen said he would be happy to see both Vilna'i and retiring Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak join Labor.

"There is no doubt that Lipkin-Shahak and Vilna'i, working together with the wonderful group of our Knesset members, would be a wonderful combination that will lead to a victory for the Labor Party, which, after all, is our goal," he said.

But many in the Labor Party leadership have privately and publicly objected to the potential dominance of the party by political neophytes fresh from the army.

MKs Shlomo Ben-Ami and Yossi Beilin, in particular, drew heat yesterday for their support of a Knesset bill proposed by the Likud's Ruby Rivlin, which would require retiring army officers to wait a full year before joining political parties.

MK Ophir Pines told Israel Radio that upon examining the motives of Labor members who support the Rivlin bill, "it is completely clear that they are afraid of competition, and are afraid of the possibility that these army officers will challenge them for the most senior positions in the Labor Party."

Both Beilin and Ben-Ami denied this. Ben-Ami said he supported the one-year waiting period so that there would be "a complete separation between the army and the political realm" for the sake of "the democratic culture of the State of Israel" and not for personal considerations.

Meanwhile, Labor's internal affairs committee discussed the possibility of changing the method by which the list of Knesset candidates are chosen – specifically, the cancellation or alteration of party primaries. It was the first of four scheduled meetings to debate the subject.

Many senior party leaders have spoken out against various proposals and have threatened to quit the party if the primaries are cancelled or changed.

"I think that we all have to be aware that changing from the present method to another method will create very serious problems for some of the members who are here," committee chairman Haggai Merom said at yesterday's meeting.

Party leader Ehud Barak has publicly opposed cancelling the primaries, but proposals to change the method by some of Barak's supporters have led to suspicions within the party that he quietly supports such a move.

Barak did not attend yesterday's meeting, but supporters, such as MK Micha Goldman, attacked those Labor members threatening to leave if primaries were cancelled.

"There are no conditional Labor Party members and these members should accept the decision of the majority when it is made," Goldman said.

Three charged in rape-murder of 5-year-old

The Haifa District Court yesterday charged three youths, all around 14, from Kafr Makr, near Acre, with the rape and murder of five-year-old Sabrine Barud, a resident of the village.

The prosecution claims the three had planned the crime.

When Barod was playing near her home in the village, the three allegedly grabbed her and dragged her to the bomb shelter in her building, where they raped her one after the other and sodomized her.

They then took an electric wire, wrapped it around her neck, and hanged her from a water pipe, killing her, the prosecution said.

They then left the shelter but returned a few minutes later, cut down the body, and put it in a bag.

The three are charged with premeditated murder, aggravated rape, sodomy, molesting a minor, kidnapping, and conspiracy.

(Itim)

PALESTINIAN PRESS REVIEW

By MICHAL SELA

The Israeli and Palestinian journalists' conference in Rhodes this weekend provoked a public debate among Palestinians on normalizing cultural relations with Israel.

The Palestinians lack the unified position needed to face a public dialogue with their rival and they have failed in the battle for peace, the philosophy of which is more complicated than that of war, Imad Ghayaza writes in *al-Ayyam*. Calling for a reassessment of the philosophy of peace, Ghayaza writes that the issue of normalization has not received any attention from those who have dealt with the strategy of negotiations.

Those who meet with Israelis, officially and unofficially, should carefully evaluate the benefits of the meetings, he writes. According to Ghayaza, many of the participants in meetings with Israelis lack knowledge and understanding of the current situation and some do not know the history of the conflict.

Rejecting unofficial Israeli-Palestinian meetings at this stage, Ghayaza mentions their cost, which he says is deducted from the budget that donor countries had provided for more urgent needs.

Even less acceptable to him is the fact that Israel determines who comes to the meetings; those who are not loyal to the current peace are not given a permit to enter occupied Palestine when a meeting takes place over there and are not allowed to leave the country when the meeting is outside.

During discussions on the Camp David accords, intellectuals demanded the rejection of any type of normalization, Samih Shabib reminds readers in *al-Ayyam*.

In the wake of the Oslo accords, Israelis and Palestinians began a cultural dialogue, Shabib writes, and this must continue. This dialogue is not an expression of normalization, he claims, but merely a way to exchange ideas.

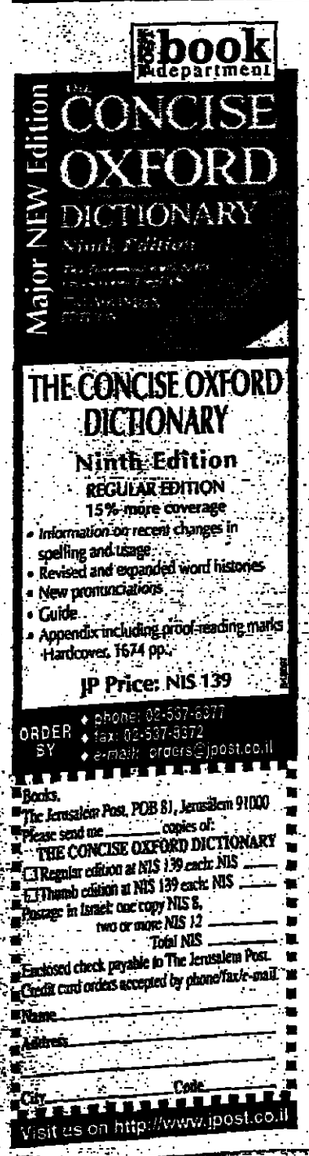
The time has come to carefully define the meaning of normalization, according to Shabib.

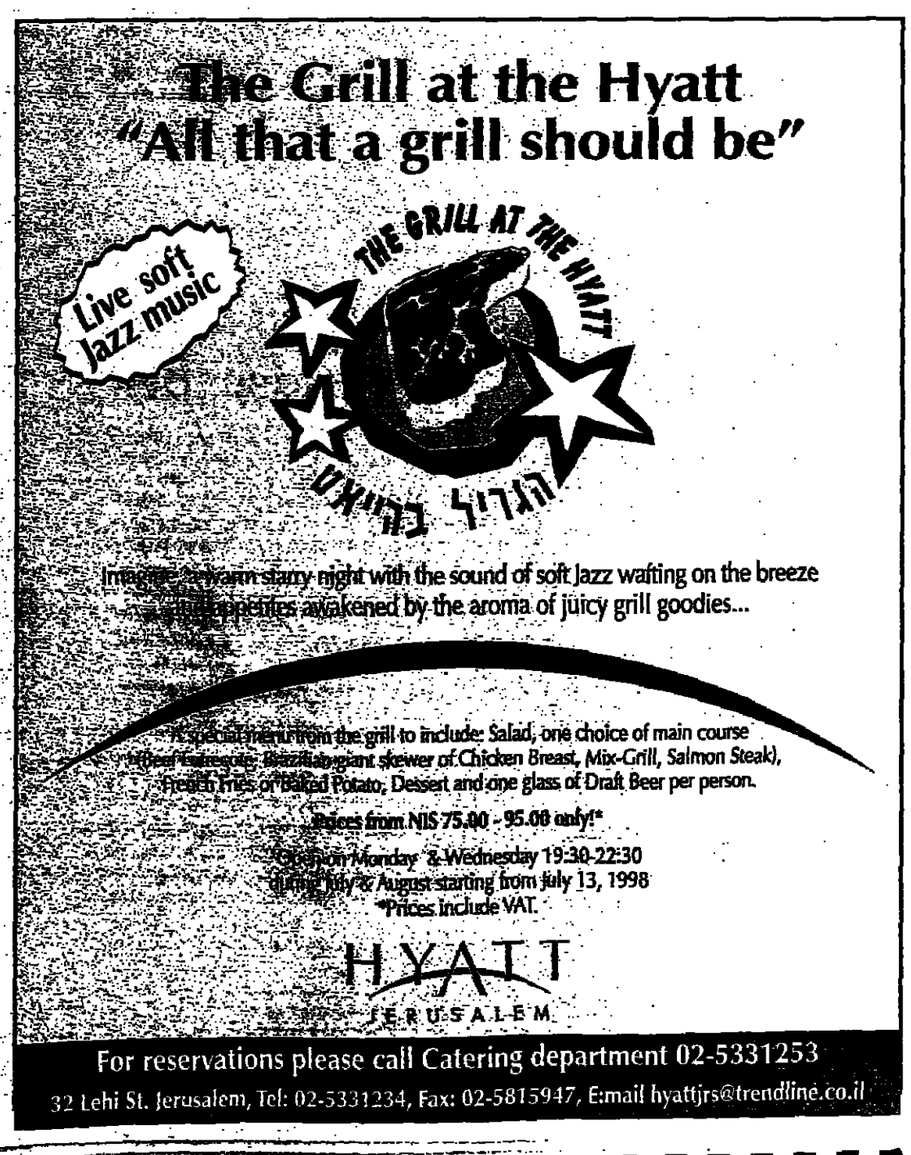
It is said the conference is intended to create a dialogue, but it smells of normalization, Issa Abd Hafiz writes in *al-Ayyam*. Is the Palestinian point of view so difficult to understand, that one needs a conference, Hafiz asks.

Yassin emphasizes unity

In an interview with Hamas periodical *al-Risala* (The Call), Sheikh Ahmad Yassin emphasizes Palestinian unity rather than his differences with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. On his tour of Arab states, Yassin says that he spoke on behalf of the Palestinian people and not against the PA.

However, Yassin adds, he opposes the Oslo accords and considers resistance to them the right way to serve the Palestinian cause. Yassin strongly rejects the claim that Hamas acts against Arafat. Nevertheless, he calls on Arafat to stop the Oslo process and change his policy towards Hamas activists.







NEWS
in brief

Irish tourist safe after arrest in Egypt

An Irish tourist who mistakenly crossed the border at Eilat into Egypt was arrested by Egyptian authorities on Friday, the British Foreign Office said yesterday.

Gerry Bowdren, a nurse of British and Irish citizenship, was apparently hiking in 40-degree heat, got lost, and unwittingly crossed the border, the Foreign Office said.

The officials added that Bowdren was unhurt and that he has been held for questioning since Friday afternoon.

Irish Ambassador to Israel Brendan Scannel said the man was not carrying any papers. He said that the Irish Embassy in Cairo is in contact with Egyptian authorities to try to secure Bowdren's release. *Gil Hoffman*

Nineteen hurt in Tel Aviv bus collision

Nineteen passengers were lightly injured when two buses collided yesterday morning in Tel Aviv.

Police said the crash occurred on Rehov Arlosoroff, when one bus braked suddenly to avoid hitting a taxi making an illegal U-turn and was rammed from behind by the second bus. The injured were taken to Ichilov and Sheba hospitals. *Itim*

US clears accused spy

An engineer under suspicion of leaking military secrets to Israel has been cleared of the crime, federal prosecutors said. After a lengthy investigation, the FBI found insufficient evidence to prove that David Tenenbaum, 39, of Southfield, Michigan, passed on classified information from his former employer, the US Army Tank Automotive and Armaments Command in Warren.

"He's been cleared," US Assistant Attorney Michael Leibson told The Detroit News for a story that appeared yesterday. "There was insufficient evidence for an indictment."

Tenenbaum's attorney, Jeremiah Kenney of Detroit, declined comment to the newspaper. *AP*

Man given 9 months for beating his children

The Tel Aviv District Court sentenced a 45-year-old man who beat his 16-year-old son and eight-year-old daughter with a belt to nine months in prison and 11 months' suspended sentence.

The defense and prosecution had at first asked the court to accept a plea bargain under which the man would be under supervision of probation officers. But because the man violated certain restrictions that the court had already ordered and it was felt that the danger to his family had not passed, the prosecution changed its stance, and asked for a jail term.

During 1995, the man had slapped, pinched and hit his daughter with a belt, leaving marks on her body. He did the same to his son when the latter refused to get up for Shabbat prayers. *Itim*

Peleg again complains about destroyed posters

Jerusalem mayoral candidate Elisha Peleg again complained to police yesterday that municipality workers were destroying his election campaign posters. His accusations came a few days after the Jerusalem District Court ordered the city to stop entering private homes to remove election posters.

On Friday morning workers of Peleg's Lema'an Yerushalayim ("For Jerusalem") Party caught and photographed people defacing campaign posters at the Jerusalem train station, said Peleg's spokesman. The workers traced the Hertz rental car license plate belonging to the individuals spray-painting the Peleg posters, and said it belonged to workers from the Mayor Ehud Olmert's Yerushalayim Melukedet ("United Jerusalem") Party.

The mayor's office denies any involvement. Police are investigating. *Amy Klein*

Hundreds of dunams of forest burn near Safed

Hundreds of dunams of forest were destroyed in a fire on the western slopes of Safed yesterday, near the town's hospital.

Both natural groves and groves which the JNF planted over the past few years were damaged. It took firefighters several hours to get the blaze under control. *Itim*

Panel must approve Foreign Ministry postings

A special ministerial committee decided yesterday that all new political appointments made in the Foreign Ministry must be approved by the Ben-Dror Committee, set up to screen political appointments in the government following last year's debacle over the two-day appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney-general. A panel appointed by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, consisting of Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, Science Minister Michael Eitan, and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, decided yesterday that 11 new Foreign Ministry appointments must be screened. *Itim*

Lifeguards strike, but beaches packed

By DAVID RUDGE

A strike by Haifa lifeguards did not deter bathers from taking a dip in the sea yesterday, despite repeated warnings by the municipality to refrain from swimming.

Beaches along the Haifa coast and nearby Kiryat Haim were packed with people, including vacationing schoolchildren for whom the lure of the water on a hot, sunny day proved greater than the dangers of no lifeguards.

Some of the bathers said they were just taking a dip close to the shore, while others said they knew how to swim and could manage without the lifeguards. The more cautious types could be seen cooling off under beach showers.

The strike by the nearly 60 lifeguards, with the full support of the Histadrut, erupted on Friday following the breakdown of negotiations with the Haifa Municipality.

Both sides accused the other of being responsible for the collapse of the talks after an agreement in principle to increase the salaries of the lifeguards had been reached and signed. The municipality charged that the lifeguards had made unacceptable last-minute demands that it could not afford to meet, especially after agreeing to an average 20 percent pay rise.

The Histadrut, acting on behalf of the lifeguards, maintained that the municipality had reneged on a signed document of intent that had been agreed upon by all the parties involved.

The trades union also categorically rejected the municipality's claims that the average gross salary of a lifeguard with tenure was NIS 14,000 a month.

The Histadrut said that the average salary with scores of hours of overtime was much lower. Officials also noted that only 16 of the lifeguards have tenure and are paid throughout the year, while the remainder are employed for six months and receive unemployment benefits for the rest of the year.



A father keeps to shallow water with his daughters during the lifeguards' strike yesterday in Haifa. (Yanik Yohai/Israel Sun)

Safed doctors protest violence

By JUDY SIEGEL

Doctors at Sieff Hospital in Safed walked off their jobs for a few hours yesterday to protest against continuing violence against them. The latest incident involved the director of the internal medicine department, who was attacked by the relative of a patient under treatment.

The relative complained about treatment the patient was getting and stuck his fingers into the doctor's eyes; he then threatened to "kill and bury" him. Only with difficulty were hospital staffers able to pull the attacker away.

The chairman of the hospital doctors' committee said the doctors feel "helpless in the face of increasing violence' in the hospitals, which is liable to harm their professional functioning."

Meanwhile, Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital, which has been the scene of two serious incidents of violence against doctors in recent months, decided to finance the posting of a uniformed, armed policeman in the emergency room 24 hours a day. This will be made possible by dismissing two guards from a private security company.

The Israel Medical Association said it hopes the better-trained policemen and the uniform will deter violence.

In addition, a special line was hooked up between the emergency room and a Rehovot police station, which will send forces when an alarm is rung.

A committee of experts set by the Health and Internal Security ministries is currently investigating ways of improving safety in hospitals and clinics around the country.

Ministry to slam additive importers for illegal claims

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry will file complaints against Solgar-Israel and demand an explanation from Promedico, the importer of Boiron Laboratories homeopathic products, for "making medical claims" for food additives they sell.

The ministry's Food Service Division decided to take action after receiving press releases sent by the companies to *The Jerusalem Post*.

Solgar-Israel of Bnei Brak claimed that its Pycnogenol 30 tablets, costing NIS 102 per bottle, "help slow the development of cancerous growths," "improve memory and reduce manifestations of senility," "improve the flexibility of joints, prevent osteoporosis and reduce inflammation caused by sports injuries and some kinds of headaches," "strengthens capillaries in the eye and improves visual acuity" in diabetics and "suppresses the release of histamines and thereby reduces allergic reactions."

The Food Service Division said that since "the license for importing the product is in the process of renewal, we will not extend the approval and the importer has been invited to explain himself."

Solgar-Israel also imports Omnion, a "unique complex for women with vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and herbal constituents" that it claims "help prevent diseases characteristic to women, such as breast cancer and arthritis, and protect against premature aging."

Sixty capsules cost NIS 149.90.

The ministry is to also invite Promedico officials to explain why they are promoting Bioptimum, a series of vitamins and food additives, as having therapeutic benefit for skin ("for treatment of wrinkles, acne, oily skin and for people who want to fight sun damage, air pollution, tension and bad diet"), bones, hair ("deals with hair loss") and nails.

Activists try to save vultures

By LIAT COLLINS

Mountain-climbing members of nature protection groups are expected today to try to reach seven young vultures orphaned in the mass poisoning on the Golan Heights at the end of last week.

The birds were left in their nests without food or protection from the intense heat after their parents were killed.

Wardens from the Nature Protection and National Parks Authority and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel said yesterday more than 20 Griffin vultures — a fifth of the population in the North — died as a result of eating poisoned bait presumably put out by a cattle farmer in an illegal attempt to kill wolves.

Other animals that died include nursing wild sows whose sucklings are unlikely to survive.

Ironically, no wolves have yet been found dead from the poisoning.

"It is an incredible blow to nature in the area and we expect to feel the effects for years to come, said Moshon Gabay, head of the NPNPA's northern region.

"Apart from the vultures, which died immediately we are concerned for the fate of at least seven young vultures which we can tell have been orphaned."

The rescue efforts entail rappelling down the mountains to the secluded spots where the parent birds built their nests.

Knesset panel to hear father of girl killed in school window fall

By AMY KLEIN

The Knesset Education Committee invited the father of Amelia Cohen, the nine-year-old who died after falling from a Jerusalem school window, to speak today to a committee session on the subject..

On June 17, Cohen fell two meters from a window that had no bars or protective guard rails.

"No one can give me back my daughter. What interests me now is to prevent other children from dying, " said Cohen. "The municipality says that according to the building code, it didn't have to put bars on the window. That isn't true.

"All the children play on the window ledges – and all the schools are in danger. This death is superfluous."

The special five-man committee that was established after Cohen's death was supposed to submit its recommendations to the Knesset last week, but three of the five members were dismissed from the committee because they are suspects in the case.

Two people have replaced them and the four-man committee will submit its recommendations in the upcoming weeks.

Avraham Cohen was invited to speak at today's Knesset meeting along with municipality representatives.

Shmuel Abuav, chairman of the Union of Local Authorities education committee, said yesterday that the Education Ministry is to blame for unsafe facilities.

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Switzerland appeals to US to block sanctions

By ALICE RATCLIFFE

ZURICH (Reuters) – The Swiss president appealed to the US government in an interview yesterday to block boycotts threatened against Swiss banks over Holocaust-era assets, amid fears such sanctions might provoke a tit-for-tat trade dispute.

President Flavio Cotti, in an interview in the Swiss weekly *SonntagsBlick*, said Switzerland wanted a clear sign that Washington would move to stop the boycotts threatened by some US state and local governments against Swiss banks.

Such actions, designed to force the banks to settle Holocaust-related class-action suits, are seen as risking a wider boycott of more Swiss companies with major business interests in the US.

Cotti's comments follow a decision by New York state and city comptrollers last Thursday to phase in sanctions starting in September against two big Swiss banks unless progress is made.

Cotti said Switzerland took the latest threats "very seriously."

Cotti said the Swiss government was also examining whether to file a complaint in the World Trade Organization (WTO) against the US, adding the decision "should be made shortly".

Swiss banks offered in June to settle class-action suits by Holocaust victims in the US for $600 million. That includes about $70 million already paid into a humanitarian fund.

Jewish groups have said it would take $1.5 billion to settle all claims, including not only those against the banks but also against the Swiss government and Swiss central bank.

The Swiss government has sworn not to get involved in the negotiations involving Switzerland's two big banks, UBS and Credit Suisse.

For its part, the Swiss government set up an expert commission to conduct an historical probe of the Nazi era. A separate commission under former US Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul Volcker has been auditing dormant accounts.

Switzerland also has proposed setting up a Solidarity Fund worth around seven billion Swiss francs, which would use money from a revaluation of some gold reserves held by the Swiss National Bank.

The fund requires Swiss voters' approval.

Some believe the present mood, soured by the latest impasse over banks, hurts any chance of the fund's passing.

But a poll published in *SonntagsBlick* and the Lausanne daily *Le Matin*, showed a clear majority against counter-sanctions by Switzerland and Swiss firms.

The poll found 66 percent opposed boycotts against US goods, and 50.2% oppose Switzerland halting payments from the humanitarian fund which has begun to pay out money to Jews and other Holocaust victims.

Nearly 70% of the Swiss polled favored diplomatic recourse against the US and 61.2% want Switzerland to lodge a complaint at the WTO against the US.

The poll showed only 7.9% believing the banks should raise their settlement offer to head off sanctions.

Some 59.2% said the current offer should stand, while 22.8% said the offer should be withdrawn altogether.

Jerusalem Post Staff adds:

Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg said yesterday if the Swiss banks maintain their "ridiculous" offer of compensation, the result will be a worldwide campaign that will force the Swiss to pay back all the money that was stolen during the Holocaust.

In the next few days the Jewish Agency will begin to distribute $50 million on an individual basis to Holocaust survivors in Israel from the Swiss fund, as directed by Burg.

An additional $2 million will be distributed to 2,000 righteous gentiles around the world.

Milo forms group to fight for religious freedom

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Warning against increasing haredi control of life in Israel, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo yesterday said we could soon expect to see women television broadcasters wearing only "modest" clothing, like those on Iranian television wrapped in veils.

Milo was speaking at a news conference following the opening meeting of a new group, the Joint Headquarters for Freedom of Religion for Israel.

Joining Milo were Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg and Prof. Uriel Reichman, a longtime advocate of a constitution for Israel.

The group includes such groups as the Reform and Conservative movements, Na'amat, Am Hofshi, and Herndat.

"We are facing a basic question of whether Israel is to be a free state, where everyone will be free to follow his or her own path, or whether it is to be a theocracy," Milo said.

Referring to the Independence Day celebrations, when the Batsheva Dance Company cancelled its performance, and the inauguration of President Ezer Weizman at the Knesset, for which a musical presentation which included women soldiers was dropped, Milo said that he could well see the day when women announcers would not be allowed to appear on television with short sleeves.

The rules would first come for the government Channel 1, and then later for the commercial Channel 2, he said.

Milo, who said that he himself comes from a traditional family and attends synagogue on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, asserted that haredim are controlling more and more aspects of life in Israel.

The latest threat, he said, was to appoint a director-general for the Antiquities Authority who would make it virtually impossible to conduct archeological research in the country.

The new coalition, he said, would press for the passage of a Basic Law: Freedom of Religion, which would include the right for everyone to marry in either a religious or civil ceremony, or divorce the same way.

Referring to his cooperation in the effort with Burg, Milo said this did not hint that Burg is about to join his proposed centrist party, with which Milo intends to run for prime minister.

Burg said that the group intends to free the government from the clutches of the haredi parties. He added that he hopes to include within the coalition religious Zionists, groups from the Orthodox world, and even haredim.

However, no Orthodox group was represented at the organizing meeting.



Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo (right) listens to Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg at yesterday's press conference of the Joint Headquarters for Freedom of Religion for Israel.
(Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

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NEWS
in brief

Storm could douse Florida's fires

FLAGLER BEACH (AP) – With thousands of people spending their Independence Day in shelters, hotels or even their cars, fire-weary northern Florida got a break from the high winds that have spread wildfires for weeks.

The fires were still raging yesterday, although higher humidity, brief showers and a cool breeze helped firefighters control the spread. More than 450,000 acres have burned in nearly 2,000 fires fed on bone-dry trees and shrubs since the end of May. About 200 homes have burned and 100 people have been injured. No deaths have been reported.

If a storm hits, as predicted, it would be the first significant rain in more than a month.

US says will oppose Iraqi nuclear clearance

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – US ambassador to the United Nations Bill Richardson said yesterday the US would oppose as premature any move to certify that Iraq has met its obligation to scrap its nuclear weapons program.

"We want Iraq to answer more questions on nuclear design, nuclear exports and uranium technology," he said in an interview on the television program *Fox News Sunday*.

Pope issues appeal to keep Sundays holy

VATICAN CITY (Reuters) – Pope John Paul urged Christians to keep Sunday sacred, even if it meant going against the grain of a society that sees it as just part of the weekend. The pope, reciting his last Sunday message in St Peter's Square until after the summer, also urged Catholics to use their vacations to restore the spirit as well as the body.

Speaking of the theme of the document he will issue tomorrow, "Dies Domini" (The Day of the Lord), the 78-year-old pontiff yesterday urged Christians to rediscover the value of Sunday.

Nigeria appoints new security officer

LAGOS (Reuters) – Nigeria's military ruler General Abdulsalam Abubakar has named a new head of presidential security to replace an officer appointed by his predecessor General Sani Abacha, a local newspaper said yesterday. The mainly government-owned *Sunday Times* quoted an official circular as saying Major A.M. Aliyu had been appointed chief security officer with effect from June 9, replacing Major Hamza al-Mustapha.

The paper said Aliyu served as Abubakar's security officer before the general took over as head of state when Abacha died of a heart attack on June 8.

Orangemen in standoff with police



Members of the Orange Order are halted by barbed wire as they attempt to march through Portadown yesterday. (Reuters)

PORTADOWN (Reuters) – A huge steel barricade erected by police and troops prevented thousands of Northern Ireland Protestant Orangemen from marching through a Catholic enclave on the outskirts of Portadown yesterday.

Reporters said members of the local Orange Lodge called out to police behind the barricade but, when there was no reply after a few minutes, they turned around and calmly headed back towards town.

Many hundreds more stayed, milling in the road and in fields adjoining the church in the village of Drumcree, and vowed to stay there until they were allowed through.

Reporters at the barricade said the Orangemen voiced their disgust at not being allowed to complete their traditional route, but said the atmosphere was relaxed.

Earlier, police estimated 2,500 Orangemen, mostly middle-aged and dressed in their traditional bowler hats, white gloves, and sashes, paraded to Drumcree church from Portadown for a service.

The Orange Order – named after William of Orange, who defeated a Catholic king in the 17th century – say they are determined to complete the traditional parade route against the will of the independent Parades Commission, which has banned them from the Catholic part of town.

The standoff comes with Northern Ireland in the early, tentative stages of a hard-won peace agreement aimed at ending the strife that has raged for 30 years between opponents and supporters of British rule.

Two thousand troops and police were on duty in the area, patrolling a big security cordon around the flashpoint in this divided town, blocking roads and swathing fields with razor-wire.

Police said 800 carloads of Orangemen had arrived from outside the area before the march got under way. Robert Anderson, a spokesman for the Orange Order, said he expects more to travel to the area in coming days.

"This is the biggest ever parade, but more sympathizers will be turning up," he said.

He said tempers could flare if the stand-off continues until the biggest Protestant marching day of the year on July 12.

At the start of the march, Orange leaders signalled their determination to stay put, but appealed for a peaceful parade.

"We will be staying as long as it takes. But we don't want trouble today ... this is the Sabbath day," one said via a bullhorn before the march.

Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlam appealed to the marchers to return to Portadown peacefully.

"Up to now it has been a very dignified march and I just hope people will follow compliance with the law and take the route back that they took to the church," she told BBC radio.

She appealed to local political leaders to resolve the stand-off.

"What we have here is a question of conflicting rights – the right to march versus the right to live free of fear and intimidation and it can only be talking, only by accommodation, that we are going to move the process forward."

Mowlam said the fact that David Trimble and Seamus Mallon, the designated first minister of the province and his deputy, were working together showed that the outlook was not as depressing as some people made out.

Teheran mayor accuses authorities of torture

TEHERAN (AP) – The mayor of Teheran, on trial for corruption and embezzlement, sparred with the judge yesterday, saying his trial was a sham.

Gholamhossein Karbaschi, whose sensational trial has gripped the nation since it opened a month ago, once again rejected all charges against him and reiterated that authorities had tortured senior municipality officials to extract false confessions against him.

He said the investigation into charges against him was being carried out by thugs.

"You've set up a group of 70 men, most of whom have little more than a high-school education, and put them in charge of this investigation. They take each person into a basement and emerge with a confession. What is the meaning of this?" Karbaschi asked the court.

When Judge Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejaei insisted that Karbaschi either admit or deny that he had ordered the payment of 8.3 billion rials ($2.7 million) to a private company without documenting or registering the transaction, the mayor exploded.

"What kind of trial is this? Either read me my written order or bring me the person whom I instructed to do this," Karbaschi shouted.

Karbaschi's trial is widely seen as an attempt by hard-liners in the ruling clergy to topple key officials allied with moderate Iranian President Mohammed Khatami. Karbaschi ran Khatami's election campaign last year.

Karbaschi read out yesterday a letter by Kamal Azimi Nia, one of his top deputies, who had confessed to several charges of corruption and embezzlement at the municipality, and to providing illegal funds for Khatami's campaign.

"When they brought me into court, I had been beaten so badly in prison with whips and clubs that I could hardly walk," Karbaschi read from the letter.

The judge adjourned the case until Thursday. If convicted, Karbaschi faces up to 10 years in jail, a fine and a ban from holding public office.

US seeks to mollify Taiwan over Clinton remarks

TAIPEI (AP) – Washington's top liaison with Taiwan assured nervous officials yesterday that President Bill Clinton's China visit had not altered US commitments to this island.

Richard Bush told reporters that Clinton's just concluded visit did not indicate Washington was bolstering Beijing's position on reunifying Taiwan with the mainland.

"United States policy toward Taiwan has not changed. In all its elements, it is exactly the same as before Clinton's trip," Bush said.

Foreign Minister Jason Hu said he told Bush that Taiwan suffered "psychological fallout" from Clinton's statement in Shanghai last week articulating what is called the "three no's" policy: no support for an independent Taiwan; no recognition for a separate Taiwanese government; and no backing Taiwan's entry into international organizations.

Washington now needs to take concrete measures to reassure Taiwan, such as raising the profile of contacts between Washington and Taipei, Hu said.

"You can't do everything with [China] in the glare of the spotlight, and keep contacts with us totally low key," Hu said. "Our people will misunderstand."

Though US officials have made identical statements in the past, Clinton's public reiteration of the three no's was the first by a US president. Many here saw that as a concession to Clinton's Chinese hosts, and say it will further shrink Taiwan's already highly limited maneuvering room in international society.

Clinton has defended his statement as a simple reiteration of existing policy. Other officials have accused Taiwan of overreacting to the statement.

Though potentially damaging, Clinton's statement was foreseen by the Foreign Ministry, which immediately issued a statement chastising the US for discussing Taiwan's interests with another party.

Bush will meet with President Lee Teng-hui and other officials today. He is expected to fly to Guam Thursday to meet with Taiwanese Premier Vincent Siew, stopping over in the American territory on his way back from a visit to three South Pacific island nations.

Kosovo observer patrols begin

By KURT SCHORK

PRISTINA, Serbia (Reuters) – Diplomatic observer patrols designed to defuse violence in the Serbian province of Kosovo will begin today, US envoy Richard Holbrooke said yesterday.

"Those patrols will become routine, integrated, multinational efforts for a long time," Holbrooke said after he and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolai Afanasyevsky met moderate ethnic Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova in Kosovo's capital, Pristina.

Holbrooke said the first observer patrol would include the Russian and British ambassadors to Belgrade and the American charge d'affaires, Richard Miles.

Afanasyevsky said the patrols would mark an "important point" in efforts to end violence in the province and added he is hopeful negotiations could resume soon between ethnic Albanians and the Serbian authorities in Belgrade over Kosovo's future.

Rugova broke off the negotiations at the end of May after only one session, because of escalating violence in the province as Serbian security forces cracked down on the clandestine Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), which is fighting for independence.

"We think that today there is a chance to restart the negotiations," Afanasyevsky told reporters. "We came here to tell Dr. Rugova and his team that we support them for the peaceful approach to solving problems."

Rugova, president of the ethnic Albanian community which makes up 90 percent of the province's 1.8 million people, has long sought an international presence in Kosovo to stem the violence that has killed some 300 people this year.

The patrols will be implemented as part of a declaration agreed by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and Russian President Boris Yeltsin on June 16. Under the deal, diplomats accredited in Yugoslavia will be allowed free movement to Kosovo.

The patrols will begin at a time when the international community is formulating plans for a more forceful intervention in Kosovo if efforts for a political solution fail. Richard Gelbard, a special US envoy, said in London yesterday that NATO military planners were drawing up contingency plans on "an accelerated basis".

Milosevic has rejected international military intervention in Kosovo, which he views as an internal Serbian problem, but has recently indicated he is receptive to some form of autonomy for the province.

Meanwhile, an exiled Kosovo Albanian leader said yesterday separatist guerrillas fighting Serbian forces in the province should join ethnic Albanian politicians in a united front.

KLA fighters, frustrated by Rugova's pacifist approach, have taken effective control of a third of Kosovo over the last four months in their struggle for independence.

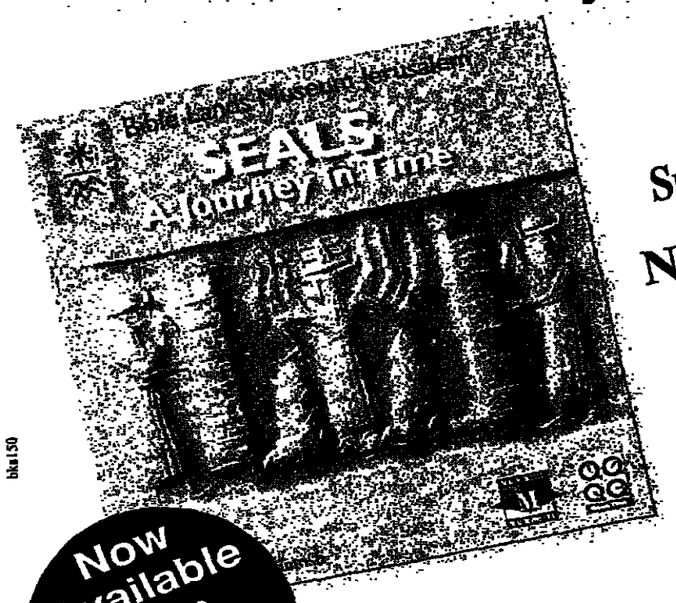
Bujar Bukoshi, Rugova's right-hand man and self-styled prime minister of Kosovo, admitted ethnic Albanian politicians differ on how to manage the crisis, but said the biggest challenge is the integration of the KLA.

"The UCK (KLA) is now a reality, a very important factor which should be taken into consideration and we have to synchronise our activities with the UCK," Bukoshi, who lives in Germany, said in an interview in Tirana with Reuters Television.

"My government is completely engaged in this direction. Probably, it is a question of days or weeks to achieve this unified position of all the parts."

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Jerusalem Film Festival

By ADINA HOFFMAN

The fifteenth Jerusalem Film Festival opens Thursday night in the Sultan's Pool, with a gala screening of the Coen brothers' comic bowling thriller *The Big Lebowski*. As is my habit every year at this time, though, I'll sing the praises of several movies that aren't Big, but which are worth seeing.

Take, for example, Kasi Lemmons's fresh and intriguing directorial debut, ***Eve's Bayou***, a coming of age story set in swampy Louisiana Creole country and tinged with both wonder and horror, spooky premonition and rueful hindsight. "The summer I killed my father, I was 10 years old..." announces plainly the grown narrator, whom we soon meet in the flashback form of the astonishing young actress Jurnee Smollett, who manages the neat dimpled trick of almost upstaging Samuel L. Jackson. (He plays her scoundrel doctor-father with his usual shifty smoothness.)

But Eve's claim of patricide is a good deal more complicated than it first sounds, and may or may not be true. Superstition and sex, voodoo and melodrama are all bound up together in Lemmons's fine script, which also treats its 1962 Southern setting in unusual ways. The privileged, upper- middle-class black world the characters inhabit is new to the screen, and Lemmons depicts it in the slightly hyperbolic, fairytale terms of a little girl's wishful memory – or guilty fantasy. ***Eve's Bayou*** is one of the more original so-called American Independents to surface in a while.

Another compelling first film is ***Hamam – The Turkish Bath***, a lovely Italian-Turkish coproduction directed by Ferzan Ozpetek, about a Yuppie from Rome who travels to Istanbul to sell a piece of property he has inherited and finds himself drawn as if by a magnet into the strange city and its customs. Although there's potential here for a kitsch sort of mysteries-of-the-Orient meltdown, Ozpetek – a Turk who has lived in Italy for the last 20 years – understands the rhythmic demands of both the cultures in question and (with the exception of the unnecessarily sensational final five minutes) treats the characters' complicated, often contradictory desires with a wise and delicate touch.

The Iranian-directed, Japanese-produced ***Bag of Rice***, by Mohammad-Ali Talebi, is a tiny, wonderful movie – a kind of cinematic, socially conscious Persian miniature, in which the slightest happenings take on the thunderous quality of myth (or parable; for all the sharp documentary accuracy of its detail, *Bag* is also an unabashedly religious work). Set in a dingy Teheran suburb, the film tells the deceptively simple non-story of a restless little girl and feeble old woman who set out together one morning to buy a sack of rice. Their errand, however, leads them on an elaborate and often hilarious set of adventures, a series of would-be trivial happenings that, in the context of their limited lives and the film's exacting frame, appear downright earth shattering.

On more familiar cultural ground comes Joan Micklin Silver's ***A Fish in the Bathtub***, a wry, well-observed look at a cranky New York couple (played with typical schmaltzy aplomb by Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara), whose long marriage is suddenly threatened by the husband's bad temper – and by the carp he insists on letting swim free in the bathtub. As she's demonstrated before in films like *Hester Street* and *Crossing Delancey*, Silver has a knack for biting yet sympathetic portrayals of American Jewish family life. With *Fish*, her gently humorous treatment of the marital and generational tensions that plague the characters rings, once more, funny and true.



Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara (center) play a typical New York couple with schmaltzy aplomb in 'A Fish in the Bathtub'.

Among the other movies in the festival's "Jewish Experience" category is a compelling though problematic Canadian documentary called ***Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies & the American Dream***, ostensibly based on *An Empire of their Own*, the (more nuanced) book by film historian Neal Gabler. The movie's basic claim – that, in their effort to gain status and cultural acceptance, the Eastern European immigrants who founded the studios created the American dream, a fantasy of acceptance and assimilation that has evolved, by the late twentieth century, into nothing less than the global religion – is convincing in its essence, though some of the film's generalizing attempts to apply this idea to particular movies seem dubious, a few inadvertent steps away from conspiracy theory.

Director Simcha Jacobovici does a clever job of using film clips (from movies as distinct as *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* to demonstrate various points, though the tendency to leap to cultural and religious conclusions about every last MGM or Paramount film produced in the 30s seems a strain. So, too, the tendency to refer to the very distinct set of moguls in one breath as "the Hollywood Jews" is questionable. The movie is, though, interesting in its overstatement, excellent fodder for heated theater-lobby debate.

Moment of Impact is a completely different kind of documentary, and one that feels at times almost too sad to watch. In painfully intimate close-up, young American director Julia Loktev, the only child of Russian-born parents who now live in the void-like suburbs of Denver, explores the aftermath of a car crash that left her father brain damaged and completely dependent on her mother. The mother, for her part, is a remarkably strong woman whose difficult daily routine and frank, existential approach to her terrible situation are as much the subject of the film as is the father's reduced state. Loktev's technique is raw, unsentimental and sometimes hard to take, but the movie stands as a moving and honest attempt by a sensitive daughter to come to terms with her parents' wrenching misfortune.

Two films by better known directors, Sally Potter's ***The Tango Lesson*** and Wong Kar-Wai's ***Happy Together***, are both lyrical, stylized examinations of love, courtship and heartbreak – and both take place partially in South America. An English feminist filmmaker (and former dancer) whose previous credits include *Orlando*, Potter both directs and stars in her movie, about a film director named Sally Potter who wants to learn the tango. She enlists as a teacher a lithe Argentinian and the two embark on a tricky relationship, both on and off the dance floor. Although the film occasionally flirts with pretension and does drag on a bit too long, it also has a powerfully seductive edge. (The dancing itself is worth a look.)

Happy Together, meanwhile, is a charged and intentionally claustrophobic portrait of a couple of gay Hong Kong expatriates adrift in Buenos Aires. The film relies on Kar-Wai's trademark dreamy cinematography as well as powerful performances by two stars of the Hong Kong screen, Tony Leung and Leslie Cheung. It's a melancholy portrayal of desperate love and cultural displacement, and one that suggests a tangential commentary on the blurred borders and allegiances of post-British Hong Kong. But the director treats the political theme so subtlely it only registers as shading.

And finally, a delightful French film, *100% Arabica* by Algerian director Mahmoud Zemmouri, is that peculiar thing, a sweet satire, about the turf battles in one poor Paris neighborhood between the doctrinaire, crooked imams and the fans of happy Rai music. The movie suggests a sort of low-budget North African *Footloose*, and features the popular Rai singers Khaled and Cheb Mami: it's not profound, but it's quite entertaining, a light look at a dark problem.



Lynn Whitfield and Samuel L. Jackson in Kasi Lemmons's intriguing 'Eve's Bayou.'

NEWS

of the muse

Ben Ami Eynav resigns from Batsheva Dance

Citing irreconcilable differences with its artistic management, Batsheva Dance Company general manager Ben Ami Eynav resigned last week, effective immediately. BD board chairman Roni Kleiman will take over as acting director until the board convenes in mid-July.

Eynav refused to say precisely what led to his precipitant decision to quit. His discontent, he says, was cumulative, deriving from "a deep conceptual difference of opinion over management and division of authority." There was disagreement over almost everthing from "day to day administration to company finances."

Eynav took over last July from Mira Idelis, who resigned her position after eight years with the company for many of the same reasons. Eynav, previously general manager of the Haifa Symphony, says that he intends to take a vacation, the first in three years, "and after that we'll see." *Helen Kaye*

Museum summer music

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem has a sizzling music summer is store for museum visitors. Each Tuesday night at the museum's sculpture garden, museum audience will be able to enjoy a wide range of musical performances ranging from jazz to opera from popular music to ethnic music. The summer program features, among other events, a three days Latin jazz festival (July 21-23) showcasing some great stars including the David Sanchez Quintet and the premiere performance of Paquito D'Rivera's new opus Jerusalem performed by the United Nations Orchestra. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Home-grown CDs

The Raanana Symphonette Orchestra released a disc of music by Israeli contemporary composer Ron Weidberg featuring his piano concerto (with Revital Hachamoff), the violin concerto (with Symphonette concertmaster Nitai Zori as soloist) and the *Variations on a Theme* by Mozart. This disc follows an earlier Symphonette disc this season with Yoseph Bardanashvilli's Children of God (with countertenor David De'Or as soloist) and Gil Shohat's violin concertino (Zori). The Israel Music Institute has released a disc of a cappella works by late Israeli composer Mordechai Setter performed by the Koln Radio Choir conducted by Gari Bertini. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

IPO ends season with Beethoven festival

In an unprecedented season finale the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under music director Zubin Mehta ends its season with a Beethoven festival (July 18-30) performing all the composer's symphonies, piano concerti and the violin concerto in concerts in Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel Aviv. Each opus will be heard usually once with several being played twice by the orchestra and a series of first class soloists headed by violinist Gil Shaham and pianists Maria Joao Pires, Rudoldph Buchbinder and Jonathan Gilad.

In other IPO news Kent Nagano has canceled his scheduled performances with the orchestra. Instead Mehta himself will lead his musicians in the same program, Mahler's third symphony. Some of the concerts dates had to be changed to fit Mehta's schedule.

After *Tristan und Isolde* and *La Traviata* in Munich in early July and *Wozzeck* in Florence before that, Mehta will continue his long operatic summer with two performances of *Tosca* at the Arena di Verona. After Verona it's off to Beijing where Mehta leads the first ever opera performance at the Forbidden City. Puccini's "Chinese" opera *Turandot* which is set in that fabled palace complex, once the home of the Chinese emperors. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Clarinet Festival in Jaffa

The Levin Music Center in Jaffa is holding the Israel Clarinet Festival from July 19-25, which is actually a series of masterclasses and concerts. Faculty members include American Howard Klug, Hungarian Jozsef Balogh and Israelis Richard Lesser and Ilan Schul. Interested clarinettists should apply by calling 03-673-3924) *Michael Ajzenstadt*

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Early music finds a loyal local audience

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Slowly but surely the Authentica early music series has become one of the best bets among local music lovers. It was launched four years ago, on a calculated whim. Today, the Authentica concerts are about to open their fifth season and music-lovers are asking for more.

Over the years Authentica has grown slowly but surely with ongoing help from various embassies and cultural agencies and in collaboration with the Jerusalem Music Center.

There are those who argue that early music is passe or certainly an acquired taste. Others might claim that all the concerts sound alike. Still others may say that very few early music ensembles can present a full and intriguing program without becoming mundane or redundant.

All this is true, yet it does not change the fact that the average Authentica concert is a very exhilarating musical event. This year the series features five leading early music ensembles from around the world. Concerts will be held in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. It opens November 19 at the Jerusalem Theater.

One of the most exciting groups slated to appear is Al Ayre Espanol, a group of a dozen singers and instrumentalists headed by Eduardo Lopez Banzo and featuring soprano Marta Almajano. Al Ayre Espanol's rendering of unfamiliar Spanish early music has charm and esprit not usually found even within seasoned early music ensembles.

Cantus Colln, a 14-member group, headed by lutenist Konrad Junghanel, specializes in 17th century German vocal music. It is one of the most refreshing early music ensembles around and whether they perform Bach or music by lesser known composers, the result is always captivating.

The French Quanor Mosaiques will perform more traditional fare (Haydn, Mozart and Schumann) with an early music approach, and Italian ensemble Concerto Palatino will present 17th century Italian and Austrian music from the ducal courts.

The most refreshing addition to the season is The Harp Consort from England with its repertoire of early Irish music and ballads based on the songs of 18th century Irish harpist and poet Carolan. The ensemble, headed by Andrew Lawrence King on the harp, includes singers, musicians and a dancer. Their performance is theatrical, hypnotic, exotic and mesmerizing.

Authentica could well be expanded to include more concerts and performance venues. The concert series could help increase local appreciation of classical and early music by offering a special early music festival weekend once a year within the framework of the festival.

Authentica subscriptions are now on sale through all ticket agencies. Subscriptions for five concerts cost NIS 579.

Terpsichore at Suzanne Dellal

By HELEN KAYE

More than a month of dance is scheduled for *MahoLohet '98* or Hot Dance Tel Aviv's Suzanne Dellal Center from July 10 to August 15. Twenty dance companies and/or soloists will participate in 40 performances. Five of these are premieres, three of them commissioned by Suzanne Dellal which organised the event. It's all designed to showcase recent work by Israeli companies, some of which will debut at the Karmiel Festival on Tuesday.

The premieres include *The Secret Garden*, by Kei Takei and *The Old Man* by Vincent Mantsoe from the Inbal Dance Theater, *Two + One* by Rami Beer with his Kibbutz Dance Company, and *Gol* from Al Kuds, which they call the second chapter of a polemical piece they presented at the last *Curtain Up* There'll also be *Vertigo Happening* from the Vertigo team of Noa Wertheim and Adi Sha'al.

There'll also be a new work from Bagnolet Dance Festival prize-winner Barak Marshall called *Shoshana's Balcony*. Other companies taking part include Batsheva Dance with an Ohad Naharin collage commissioned by the festival, flamenco from Sylvia Duran and Michal Natan, their very personal works from such as Yossi Jungman (*Quant*) and Inbal Pinto (*Duet* and *Wrapped*) as well as evenings by Bat Dor, Kol Dmamma, Nir Gal and Liat Dror, (with the acclaimed *Inta Oumri*), the wonderfully inventive Shaketak, and Ido Tadmor with all three of his creations to date, *Sima's Pot*, *Cell* and *Uranus*.

There'll also be free events on the plaza, including storytelling for children. As an additional treat there'll be a reconstruction of Creative Electricity, the intriguing and imaginative sculpture garden created by Electricity Company managing director Rafi Peled from spare parts for the 1997 Israel Festival.

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The missing summit

The summer heat tends to slow everything down, even diplomacy. In the absence of real movement in the peace process, talk of summits is proliferating. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has unsuccessfully pushed for a "Madrid 2" international conference, France and Egypt have a proposal, and yesterday Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Jordan's King Hussein, and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met in Cairo. However, the only summit missing is the one that is most necessary – between Netanyahu and Arafat.

When Mubarak, Hussein, and Arafat last met in September, they could hardly have expected that by now there would still be no deal on the much-anticipated second redeployment. Much of the blame for delay has fallen on Netanyahu's doorstep, and indeed Netanyahu seems to be a master at drawing matters out. Next to Arafat, however, Netanyahu's delaying skills seem almost amateur.

In the current stalemate, one of the main issues in contention is Israel's demand that the Palestinians amend the PLO Covenant to erase its multiple calls for Israel's destruction. Arafat's promise to do so is as old as the Oslo process itself. The Oslo era officially began with an exchange of letters between prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat, days before the signing of the Declaration of Principles on the White House lawn. Arafat's September 9, 1993 letter to Rabin states the Covenant's denials of Israel's right to exist "are now inoperative" and that he pledges to "submit to the Palestinian National Council for formal approval the necessary changes in regard to the Palestinian Covenant." At that time, amending the Covenant seemed imminent. It is now almost six years later, and Arafat's commitment is yet to be implemented. In April 1996, the Peres government attempted to negotiate a formula to resolve the issue, but the resolution actually passed by the PNC again made no specific amendment to the Covenant. Then in January 1997, as part of the Hebron Accords, Arafat again committed to "complete the process" of amending the Covenant.

Since then, Arafat has sent letters to President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Tony Blair retroactively listing the articles of the Covenant that were supposedly canceled by the 1996 PNC resolution. But this, too, can only be taken as a statement of intentions, since the Covenant states that it can only be amended by a two-thirds vote of the PNC, and numerous PLO officials have stated that it has been "frozen," not amended. Now Netanyahu is seen to be delaying matters by demanding that the Palestinians finally carry out a commitment that is a foundation stone of the entire process.

Since the beginning of the Oslo process, Israel has – despite fits and starts, internal division, and even the assassination of the prime minister – demonstrated its commitment to the process by transferring territorial control to the Palestinians. Even under Netanyahu, this process continued with the redeployment in Hebron, and now a major further redeployment is on the table. In this context, it is not unreasonable to characterize the situation as Netanyahu did to the diplomatic corps on Friday: "The issue is not what Israel is prepared to give – it is prepared to give considerably – but it is the Palestinians' unwillingness to give anything of substance."

In the Gaza Strip on Friday, the Palestinian Police cut off Israeli settlements after the IDF refused passage on an Israeli security road to a convoy led by a Palestinian minister. The standoff, which could have broken out into a full-fledged shooting war, was a reminder of how dangerous the current situation is. But the lesson is not just that Israel has an interest in resolving the existing impasse, but that the Palestinians do as well.

Now that Clinton has returned from China and the end of the Knesset summer session approaches, the fate of the redeployment package will be determined. So far, the United States has not rejected Israel's concerns regarding the package on the table, but it has not subjected the Palestinians to the same public pressure that Israel has been under. The sticking point is no longer the size of the redeployment, since creative solutions can be found for the territory surrounding the Israeli settlements that will be isolated by the withdrawal. The more significant question is whether Arafat will be pressed to deliver something much less tangible than what Israel is delivering, but no less necessary for the ultimate success of the peace process. Amending the Covenant is such a fundamental building block, as is an end to the long boycott by Arafat of direct negotiations with Netanyahu.

Overkill

YOSSI BEN-AHARON

Returning to Israel after a lengthy absence, one is struck by the incessant cacophony of noises from our politicians. Like a pack of poodles barking at each other, the substance of their exchanges is totally lost in the deafening chorus.

Engrossed in an endless cycle of charge and counter-charge, politicians may think the public in Israel and abroad is listening closely to what they have to say. But in reality, more and more people are losing interest in anything they articulate. The issues are drowned out by the noise.

This applies equally to all politicians – from President Ezer Weizman right down to the last backbencher. The president had no business broadcasting to the media his complaints against the prime minister. No one has gained from this publicity except our adversaries.

On the other hand, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu should never have sent the president on a diplomatic missions. Conducting foreign relations is the exclusive responsibility of the prime minister and his cabinet. Even if the president were a member of the same party as the prime minister and a total supporter of the government's policies, he should not be involved in the day-to-day execution of foreign policy.

Netanyahu should concentrate on gaining credibility through actions, not words

All the more so since Weizman is known to hold views that are very distant from those of Netanyahu and is known to be very independent-minded and a rebel of sorts.

The Israeli presidency is not equipped to handle the practical execution of policy on any subject, much less that of foreign affairs, which is so complex and sensitive.

Weizman's predecessors, Chaim Herzog and Yitzhak Navon, had at least as much experience in foreign affairs and defense as Weizman. Both of them had reservations and criticism of the Likud governments, but they never expressed them publicly. When abroad, they were careful to articulate a consensual position and there was never a doubt regarding their loyalty to the elected government.

THE PRIME minister's problem is his penchant for hyperactivity. He feels he must respond to every criticism and challenge. He is too eager to please and too quick to promise. Instead of holding himself above the mud-slinging matches that take place every day, he cannot resist the temptation to participate in them.

As a result, he keeps losing stature and credibility. This is especially regrettable, since he is the first prime minister to be directly elected by the people and his basic policy – not his tactical execution of it – is still sound and merits much more support.

Contrary to the impression that our left-leaning media are trying to create, "the world" is not against Netanyahu and Israel is far from isolated. I have just spent a month touring the United States, lecturing and talking to people. No one has a good word to say for Arafat and people understand that Israel cannot be expected to deliver territory to a party that is in constant violation of its undertakings.

Only the loud, acrimonious and sometimes vulgar political debate in Israel can raise doubts regarding the justice of Israel's policy. Sadly, we are sometimes our own worst enemy.

Netanyahu holds the key to an improvement in the situation. He should refrain from responding to the president's public criticism or involving him in policy. In time, Weizman will realize that the dignity of his office requires him to limit his activities in accordance with the precedents set by his own predecessors.

If he has views of his own, or criticism of Netanyahu's policies, he can air them privately to the prime minister. The rest is up to the PM. He can accept, reject, or take into consideration the president's advice. In the final analysis, the responsibility to the electorate is his and not the president's.

Netanyahu has a superb media personality. But he has damaged it by overkill. He should resist the temptation to argue with his critics and to address the television cameras at every opportunity. Above all, he should refrain from telling people what he thinks they want to hear and concentrate on gaining credibility through actions, not words.

Dry Bones



The dangerous pluralism debate

ABRAHAM H. FOXMAN

For many years, Jewish communities in Israel and the Diaspora were aware that there were very serious, undefined issues in Jewish life. We were aware that the values, definitions and status that designated and defined the Jewish community in the Diaspora were, for the most part, imposed upon us.

Yet, within the communities of the ghettos and the shtetls, we defined for ourselves who we were, what we were, how we related to one another and to society in general.

But we also knew and understood that when the State of Israel was founded, all this could change. We, the Jewish people, sovereign again after 2,000 years, would have the opportunity, the freedom and the challenge to define ourselves – sovereign as a people, sovereign as a nation.

And, irony of ironies, we have grappled with these issues for 50 years but have not resolved them. With a sense of wisdom, trepidation, and concern about the well-being of Israel and the Jewish people, we postponed that debate. We postponed the definition of who we are, what we are in terms of the global concept of who is a Jew, what is a Jew.

We did so because we understood we could not afford ourselves the luxury of such a wrenching debate, not at a time when Israel was not at peace, not secure.

The promise, hope and vision resulting from the Oslo Accords led some in the US and in Israel to feel we had reached that moment of truth: that we were now ready for this debate. We were at peace, we could risk engaging in the debate, even at the risk of upsetting some people in the process. But without minimizing the importance of such a debate, it's clear to me that we are not ready for it, because the world has not changed that much.

We, as American Jews, cannot today afford to weaken the unity of the Jewish people in this critical time

If there is any doubt, look at the United Nations, where 137 nations unite against Israel, even after Oslo, Hebron, and all those wonderful photo-ops.

Look at Iran, look at Iraq, Syria; read Yasser Arafat's remarks and then decide whether we have the luxury to engage in a debate which can rip us apart, which can separate us as Jews, which can imperil the State of Israel.

There is a danger in this debate. There is the danger that media hype about the so-called "war of the Jews" may mislead the Arabs as to the support of Israel in the Jewish community, and that the US administration may be misled into thinking that our community is so split, so separated, that the US can speak or act in a manner that it otherwise would not have dreamed of doing.

IF you were to ask the average American Jew what the present argument is, they would tell you that Israel, with its Orthodox culture, does not recognize Reform and Conservative Jews as real Jews. Many American Jews say they feel disenfranchised and not welcome in Israel. Some feel like second-class citizens. Others feel that Israel does not recognize their version of Judaism. This is not the case.

The issue is not "Who is a Jew." It is "Who is a Rabbi." It is not about the status of Conservative and Reform Judaism in America. Nothing Israel has done, nothing it has legislated or will legislate – even if the conversion bill is eventually passed – has anything to do with defining or designating who Jews are in America.

Israel does not legislate the way American Jews live religiously. But Israel does legislate how Israelis live religiously, a fact that is clearly offensive to many of us American Jews. To many Americans, the fact that the State of Israel legislates Shabbat, for example, is anathema, although one must point out that now there are more restaurants and nightclubs open on Friday night than one could have imagined only a decade ago. Reform and Conservative schools and synagogues meanwhile, are growing in numbers.

It is often said that American Jews need to understand that while 20 percent of Israelis are Orthodox or traditional and 80% are not, the synagogue that the 80% do not attend is is still Orthodox. And until and unless that changes, what we have in the US will not necessarily be part of what we share with Israel.

We have a responsibility to lower the rhetoric, to step back, to examine the other position, to engage in civil dialogue. We, as American Jews, cannot today afford to weaken the unity of the Jewish people in this critical time of Israel's quest for peace, security and normality.

Hopefully, in our lifetime, we will be able to openly, vigorously, respectfully, and civilly engage in the definition of who is a Jew and what is a Jew; what it means to Israelis and what it means to us in the Diaspora, and how we can bring about the unity of the Jewish people separated by sovereignty and oceans, while respecting each other's traditions and way of life.

But now is not the time.

The writer is director of the Anti-Defamation League.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'CLOCKWORK ORANGE'

Sir, In this week's television listings in *Time Out*, the film *Clockwork Orange* is again recommended. I have noticed that the film is screened every six months or so, and I want to express my strong protest.

Clockwork Orange is an excellent film as far as its production, acting and impact are concerned. However, it is one of the most violent films I have ever seen, and it underlines violence for the sake of violence.

There are those who claim the film is a social satire, meant to criticize violence. This may be so, but the film is seen by children and adolescents, many of whom probably do not have yet the tools to absorb the criticism and not the violence.

We are living in a society which is becoming more cruel and violent every day. We certainly do not need to promote the phenomenon by repeatedly screening films like *Clockwork Orange* whose very excellence makes the banality of meaningless violence "acceptable."

RAOUL WEIL
Haifa.

RECKLESS WORDS

Sir, – In the diplomatic disagreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority regarding the second withdrawal, President Ezer Weizman has taken sides.

He proclaims to the world that the Palestinians are completely right and the Israeli government is completely wrong.

Now that Ezer has entered the political fray, will he explain to the Israeli public how he reached his conclusion? Does he believe that the Palestinians have no obligations under Oslo, but only benefits? Should the Palestinian Authority continue to refuse to apprehend known murderers of Israelis?

Should the Palestinian Authority continue to build up a large army next to our homes? Should the Palestinian Authority continue to incite its people against Jews and the State of Israel?

I believe that the Israeli public wants peace, but also wants security. And now the president of the State of Israel encourages our enemies by becoming a symbol of our divisions, foreshadowing a possible future collapse of our society through internal weakness.

The next time a terrorist strikes in Israel because he is convinced that another brutality will cause us to flee from our land, I expect Ezer Weizman to accept indirect responsibility for his reckless words.

PROFESSOR AL GOLDBERG
Technion – Israel Institute of Technology.
Haifa.

HUMILIATING DEFEAT

Sir, – Thirteen of the 14 members of the naval commando unit sent to south Lebanon last year were killed. In any self-respecting state, the defense minister and the chief of staff who decided on this foolish operation would have resigned, and the prime minister would have unhesitatingly accepted their resignations.

But in Israel today, political generals favoring territorial concessions are never responsible for their mistakes – no matter how many of those under their command die. Instead, they become media heroes, with the press advocating their claims to top-grade civilian posts – including that of prime minister.

When responsibility for serious failures can be shifted to less senior ranks, it is. When it cannot, "nobody is responsible." Yitzhak Mordechai and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak performed acts of heroism in the past. Nevertheless, the IDF will be unable to win future wars if commanded by generals like them.

When members of the IDF's top echelon are permitted to fail dismally on the battlefield, so long as they support ceding territories to the enemy, demoralization in the lower ranks becomes inevitable. Orders from such generals will be accepted with growing bitterness and resentment. For the IDF's task is not to make peace or retreat from territories we control, but to win wars.

The sequel to the naval commando tragedy was no less painful. For parts of the mutilated body of Itamar Ilya, Israel released some 60 living Hizbullah terrorists and 40 Hizbullah corpses. The entire Moslem world viewed this as a humiliating Israeli defeat and an invitation to more blackmail of the same kind.

Yet Ya'acov Perry, Ehud Barak's candidate for the post of defense minister, announced we would act similarly in future! Nobody on our general staff found the courage to convince the Ilya family that a memorial to their fallen son, in a military cemetery of their choice, (instead of a coffin with two-thirds of his body) would save Israel not only its present shame, but a large number of dead in future.

Nobody bothered to remember the hundreds of Israelis killed and wounded by the terrorists released in the despicable deal with Ahmed Jibril. And I, who also lost a child to Arab terror, cannot but ask: Will a state, whose generals and politicians care more about dead corpses than about the lives of their soldiers, live or die?

YOHANAN RAMATI
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On July 6, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that Professor Albert Einstein had agreed to cooperate actively in the administration and direction of the Physics Institute of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

50 years ago: On July 6, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported on the arrival of Count Bernadotte to Tel Aviv and on his immediate proposals: the demilitarization of Jerusalem and various parts of Haifa and the prolongation of the truce. Egyptian troops in the Negev broke the truce for the fourth consecutive day and Arabs continued sniping in Jerusalem.

25 years ago: On July 6, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that defense minister Moshe Dayan promised that compulsory army service for males could and should be reduced some time in the future from the present three years, but that it could not be less than two-and-half years.

Alexander Zvielli

Strike – or face another Bosnia

BOB DOLE
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN

Three years after the Dayton Accords ended the fighting in Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic is back at it again. This time, his forces are in Kosovo, driving out and killing Albanian men, women and children – even as he meets with diplomats and moderate Kosovar leaders.

If the world does not heed the lessons of Bosnia and act forcefully now, Kosovo's two million Albanians will fare much worse than their Bosnian neighbors.

In early summer 1995, Congress voted overwhelmingly to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia. This was a bipartisan effort that signaled congressional support for stopping Serbian aggression.

The price of that genocidal aggression had been the slaughter of 250,000 Bosnians and the displacement of 2.5 million people. Congressional action prompted the Clinton administration to move forward and lead NATO's conduct of airstrikes against Serbian targets, which in turn brought Serbia's President Milosevic to the negotiating table in Dayton, Ohio.

The time for prevention has come and gone. The opportunity to resolve the status of Kosovo at Dayton was missed. Kosovo is now at war. Immediate and resolute actions must be taken to stop the conflict that is escalating daily. NATO's accelerated military planning and recent military exercises in the region are steps in the right direction.

The opportunity to resolve the status of Kosovo at Dayton was missed

Nevertheless, we are gravely concerned that these moves will not be enough to prevent a Bosnia-style human tragedy and possibly a regionwide expansion of the violence and refugees beyond Kosovo.

EXPERIENCE with the aggression against Bosnia yielded two very important lessons. First, Milosevic responded only to the credible threat and use of force. Second, the longer we wait to take action, the more difficult it becomes to alter events on the ground. We must act now or deal with the increasingly deadly consequences later.

With those lessons in mind, we urge President Clinton, once again, to lead our allies and take three immediate actions:

Deliver an ultimatum to Milosevic. If he does not halt the attacks on Kosovo, if he does not agree to participate in internationally mediated talks, NATO will conduct airstrikes against military installations in Serbia.

Then, establish a NATO no-fly zone over Kosovo which, if violated, will be met with swift and decisive military retribution.

Third, extend the sanctions imposed on Serbia, including a comprehensive economic and fuel embargo. Economic and energy sanctions must be imposed in conjunction with NATO actions.

The crisis in Kosovo also demands immediate humanitarian aid. But the origin of the crisis in Kosovo is not humanitarian. It is the culmination of a decade of Serbian denial of the human and political rights of the Albanian majority in Kosovo.

In light of years of Albanian suffering, it is no surprise that some Albanians have become impatient with nonviolent resistance and support the Kosovo Liberation Army.

As the US experience in Bosnia demonstrated, negotiations that are not backed by the credible threat of force will not succeed.

Unless the world forces Milosevic to cease his attacks and accept international mediation, the conflict that has already begun will be worse than Bosnia not only for the Kosovars, but also for Europe, NATO and the United States.

Dole is a former US senator from Kansas and the 1996 Republican presidential nominee. Lieberman is a Democratic US senator from Connecticut.

(Los Angeles Times)

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Judgment Call

Sure Justices Legislate. They Have To.

By LINDA GREENHOUSE

WASHINGTON

ANY nominee who appears before the Senate Judiciary Committee these days can expect a lecture on the sins of "legislating from the bench" or "making law instead of interpreting the law." Judges who believe otherwise "should resign to run for public office — at least then they would be accountable for their actions." So said Senator Orrin G. Hatch, the Utah Republican who heads the Judiciary Committee, a few weeks ago in a speech on the Senate floor.

Across the street at the Supreme Court, meanwhile, the Justices were wrapping up a term that included a striking amount of what a disinterested observer might be tempted to call judicial legislating. That there has been no call for the Justices' mass resignation, from Senator Hatch or anyone else, indicates that beyond ritual political incantations about judges lies a separate, tacitly understood and widely accepted reality.

Clarifying Vagueness

By substantial majorities that cut across the ideological spectrum, the Justices in the term that just ended essentially rewrote the law of sexual harassment in the workplace, which is governed by, but nowhere described or even mentioned in, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. They defined the scope of the attorney-client privilege, which Congress addressed only implicitly in Rule 501 of the Federal Rules of Evidence. And the Justices effectively immunized police officers for the consequences of reckless high-speed chases, in lawsuits brought for constitutional deprivations under the ancient Civil Rights Act of 1871.

Not everyone may have liked every result, but very few people who follow the Court could honestly profess to be shocked that there was lawmaking going on.

While the Court's most noted role is to interpret the majestically open-ended and opaque phrases of the Constitution, about two-thirds of the docket consists of statutory cases. In deciding these, the Court routinely engages in what might be described as making law.

Making laws is our job, not judges,' legislators say. The trouble is, the legislators often don't finish the job. In some big cases, the Supreme Court just did.

It supplies the interpretive principles and the rules for practical application: Which side has what kind of burden of proof? What amount of evidence is sufficient? It decides how laws apply to situations that the Congress that passed them never anticipated. It reconciles internal contradictions. It fills in all-important statutory gaps attributable to Congressional neglect or, often, to deliberate omission in the face of political gridlock.

If Justices stopped this kind of legislating from the bench, the system might grind to a halt.

"It's driven by necessity," said Geoffrey C. Hazard Jr., a University of Pennsylvania law professor. "We are living in an age of statutes with high political purpose that are broad on policy and rhetoric but weak on subordinate detail."

He said no institution other than the Supreme Court has both the credibility and the responsibility to fill in the blanks, adding of the Justices, "What service would they really be performing for anyone if they talked at an equal level of generality?"

It was, after all, John Marshall, the fourth Chief Justice, who declared in Marbury v. Madison in 1803 that "it is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is." Still, there was something quite noteworthy, even a bit unsettling, about how far the Court took the practice in the past term.

In deciding two sexual harassment cases, based on a law that tells employers little more than "thou shalt not discriminate," the Justices crafted and included in each decision an identical page of rules for establishing an employer's liability for the harassing conduct of a supervisor. The decisions went beyond defining sexual harassment in broadly prescribing how the legal system should handle such cases.

Employers could be held liable even for conduct they were not aware of, and for conduct that did not cause any tangible job-related harm to the victimized employee, the Court said.

At the same time, it added an important qualification: If there was no harm, an employer could establish an "affirmative defense" against liability by having an effective anti-harassment policy in place, and by showing that the complaining employee unreasonably failed to invoke it.

In dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas, joined only by Justice Antonin Scalia, complained about the Court's "whole-cloth creation." But the tone of the majority opinion was not so much activist as pragmatic. The seven Justices in the majority, including Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, recognized that their own earlier, vaguely worded sexual-harassment decisions had failed to give lower courts the guidance to navigate a legal regime that was, after all, almost entirely judge-made.

A Dialogue With Congress

The Court had seen enough of confusion in the lower courts to know it was time to intervene, said Prof. Barry Friedman of Vanderbilt University Law School. And he called attention to what he said was an overlooked factor in supposedly free-handed lawmaking by the Justices: the Court's "confidence that Congress can talk back."

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A New Broom Needs a New Handle

Welfare as We Know It Goes Incognito

By RACHEL L. SWARNS

WITH a wave of a wand and a mayoral proclamation, New York City's welfare system is vanishing. Job centers are replacing welfare offices. Financial planners are replacing caseworkers. And the entire bureaucracy is morphing into the Family Independence Administration.

In truth, the same workers still do business in the same buildings, but the city has been infected by a name-changing frenzy that has been sweeping the country. Massachusetts' Department of Public Welfare is now the Department of Transitional Assistance. Florida's welfare program is now the Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency Program. And in two weeks, the American Public Welfare Association, a trade group that represents social service agencies, will officially shed the word welfare from its letterhead for the first time in 66 years.

In an era when work is prized and welfare disparaged, many state and local officials are scrubbing their programs and groups clean of words tainted, rightly or wrongly, by the sour smell of failure. As Liz Krueger, an advocate for the poor, said somewhat sadly: "We have made welfare a four-letter word in this country. Everyone is running as fast as they can away from it."

A Powerful Message

And as the new language of welfare seeps into public consciousness, it has caused some people to wonder what is behind the new names. Are they merely euphemisms for business as usual? Or do they illuminate a whole new world? In one sense, the names reflect a nation transformed by time limits for public charity and work requirements for those who receive it. They send a powerful message to the poor about the change in government expectations.

But these names are also meant to carry a politically potent message to voters who will never step into a welfare office but whose discontent with the status quo helped propel an overhaul in welfare policy. In this sense, the words underscore the desires of politicians and officialdom to project a perception of change — even if little actually changes — as they try to curry favor with the electorate.

People wonder if name changes reflect reality or are euphemisms.

"Is this a message to people on welfare? Yes," said Robert C. Lieberman, assistant professor of politics and public policy at Columbia University. "But my suspicion is that the naming of programs is directed more at voters, certainly on the part of the elected, who are choosing the way they want their policies to be read."

Mr. Lieberman recalled a similar name change in the 1960's when the Federal welfare program was called Aid to Dependent Children. Criticized for discouraging marriage by supporting only single mothers, Federal officials began providing help to couples. While the vast majority of checks continued to flow to single women, the name became Aid to *Families* with Dependent Children.

Thirty years later, public disapproval of the welfare mother whose children and grandchildren rely on public assistance helped persuade Congress to change the rules and the name again. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families was born. At the state level, Texas created the Workforce Commission to oversee its welfare programs. Michigan dubbed its welfare agency the Family Independence Agency. And Utah started calling its offices "employment centers" and its welfare recipients "job seekers."

"It's a shrewd kind of move," Mr. Lieberman said of the linguistic shift. "Who can be against personal responsibility or family independence or temporary assistance or any of these things?"

Change and Posturing

In New York City, where two more welfare offices were converted into job centers last week, the names encompass both radical change and political posturing. At the centers, poor people are told to look for jobs, not welfare, and to lean on relatives, not charity. The shift has resulted in a staggering change: While 60 percent of the people who walked in the door once ended up on welfare, now only about 10 percent land on the dole, the rest deciding to get by on their own.

"The new names send positive messages to clients and caseworkers that the world of

Continued on page 11



The New York Times

Not a Welfare Center Today New York City has no Department of Welfare. The new name is the Family Independence Administration. This office in lower Manhattan in 1966 would now be called a job center.



Angel Franco/The New York Times

Not a Welfare Caseworker People who work with the poor are financial planners. A step up the New York City ladder are supervisors like Marcia Harris, whose title was senior case planner in January.



Andrea Mohin/The New York Times

Not a Welfare Recipient Theresa Sledge, 23, and her 6-month-old daughter, Doyleesa, in their trailer home in Florida. In the new language of welfare, some might call her a job seeker.

Shangri-La With Serfs

Two visions of Tibet clash, and both lose.

By Barbara Crossette

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The Dalai Lama

No Pain, No Gain?

Some economists say there is a silver lining in the clouds hovering over the Japanese economy. The weaker yen could present an opportunity for economic restructuring.

10

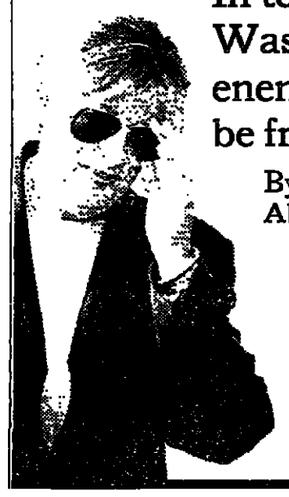
By Stephanie Strom

Scandalous

In today's Washington, enemies can't be friends.

By Jill Abramson

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Linda Tripp

...ORYEHUDA 11 a.m., 5 ... made for Golan Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50 ... whatever Jewish identity ... let the rabbi's assumption that ... to tie up the folks back home.

The World

Finding the Silver Linings in Japan's Storm Clouds

By STEPHANIE STROM

TOKYO

DEN FUJITA, one of Japan's most successful and iconoclastic businessmen, is reveling in Japan's economic woes. As the owner of half of McDonald's Japan, Mr. Fujita has so relentlessly slashed prices of burgers, shakes and fries that it's now cheaper to buy a Big Mac in Tokyo than in New York — even without the yen's recent tumble. Profits are soaring, and Fujita-san is crowing.

"These bad times are a good thing for me," he said. "No problems at all for us, not one."

Mr. Fujita is a rare bird these days, when most economists and world leaders see nothing redeeming in Japan's skid into a recession that took hold last winter and now threatens to undermine the already faltering economies of the rest of Asia.

Instead of taking its medicine seven years ago when recession loomed after the collapse of the real estate market, Japan persisted in a policy of denial, keeping the economy stumbling along with public works projects and lenient accounting rules that allowed banks to paper over bad loans and corporations to dress up their balance sheets.

For all its dodging and feinting, Japan has become the pariah of the global economy, which is itself under threat from a Japanese economic meltdown. Japan is still the world's second-largest market, and as such is an integral part of the global financial system. If Japan sneezes, the world is liable to catch a cold.

But some economists say there is a silver lining in the black clouds scudding across the Japanese economic horizon. The nation's current credit crunch, weaker yen, higher unemployment and lower prices, these economists maintain, actually present an opportunity for an economic restructuring that would return the nation to economic preeminence. "There is a potential strong upside to Japan's downside," said David Asher, a Japan scholar at Oxford University. "Structural adjustment will inevitably be painful and socially and politically disconcerting. However, no pain, no gain."



Reuters

In the land of the $2 zucchini and $12 bag of rice, a Big Mac in Tokyo costs less than one in New York.

An Alternate Strategy

Mr. Asher is by no means a wide-eyed optimist. He is the co-author, with Andrew Smithers, of a damning portrait of the Japanese economy published last March by the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. They argue that mountains of debt, growing loan defaults, low productivity and falling asset prices and birth rates will turn Japan into an economic has-been if the Government fails to clean up the banking system, and persists in trying to hold off market forces.

Instead, the authors maintain, tighter bank lending and lower prices should force Japanese businesses to become leaner and more efficient. And rising unemployment need not be a cause for panic, given Japan's demographics, changing workplace culture and the experience of American businesses that rebounded from the downsizing of the early 1990's. Last week the Government did announce a sweeping rescue plan that would close insolvent banks and clear away bad debt, which Mr. Asher says is a good start.

While a Japanese collapse might be in Japan's long-term interest if it forces a thorough economic revamping, it would almost certainly clash with the rest of the world's short-term interests; when the yen went into a free fall last month, the American stock market retreated and exporters around the world began toting up the losses they would suffer from the coming flood of cheaper Japanese products.

But if Japan keeps postponing wrenching reform, its economy will continue to languish, further postponing a recovery in the region — which will eventually take a toll on economies in Europe and in the United States.

"What if Japan had a hard landing but a fast bounceback?" said Kathy Matsui, chief strategist at Goldman, Sachs & Company in Tokyo. "That would be good for Japan and ultimately good for the rest of Asia, too."

Take the falling prices that thrill Mr. Fujita. For years, tourists to Japan have dined out on tales of Japan's $200 cantaloupes and $6 strawberries, but Japanese housewives have had to live with the reality of a $2 zucchini and $12 bag of rice. It's no wonder people are flocking to McDonald's, particularly at a time when companies are cutting bonuses and other perks.

The Japanese stand to benefit from lower prices for consumer goods, Mr. Asher said, as well as lower land and asset prices. Once the prices of real estate and other assets reflect their true value, companies will be able to produce higher returns on their investments, which in turn will lead to more investment and economic growth.

The same thinking goes for tighter bank lending. Small and midsize businesses have had difficulty getting loans from banks, which are themselves scrambling to meet international standards for capital and disclosure.

Bankruptcies have skyrocketed as individuals and small entrepreneurs have found themselves unable to get loans, which in the past they had used to repay old debts. The fact that banks are breaking that vicious cycle and saying no — after years of saying yes with little regard for creditworthiness or business rationale — is an enormous step toward a more realistic allocation of capital. It is a very painful process but one destined to put the financial system on sounder footing and make businesses leaner and more competitive. Another area of concern is unemployment, which is running at a postwar high. For decades, the West has bemoaned Japan's system of lifetime employment, but now that the system is breaking down, a number of foreign economists are wringing their hands over the accompanying layoffs.

It is true that Japan's social safety net is woefully *insufficient*. Laid-off workers receive an average monthly handout of about $360 at current exchange rates, according to Douglas Ostrom, who has written extensively about Japanese economic reform. And the Government is far more likely to finance a new bridge or railway track as an antidote to unemployment than commit money to bolstering the welfare system.

But some economists say the anxiety over unemployment ignores the fact that the nation will face a labor shortage after the year 2000 because of low birth rates. Thus, most workers losing their jobs as the economy restructures should eventually find new ones — as long as the Government fosters programs to develop new skills.

American companies slashed tens of thousands of workers from payrolls in the early 1990's, but now the nation has one of the tightest labor markets in memory. Because of Japan's low birth rate, high education levels and cultural commitment to providing work for those who want it, downsizing in Japan will probably be far more gentle than it was in the United States.

Howling Over the Yen

Already, as Japanese companies find themselves stretched by the traditional pay system in which workers are paid based on seniority and regardless of skills and performance, longtime benefits like low-interest loans and transportation costs are being slashed. Some companies are even scrapping the seniority-based pay system and moving toward merit-based systems.

As for the yen, there is more than a little self-interest in the howling from Washington and other nations for its recovery. Japanese companies benefit from the yen's decline because their products become cheaper, which hurts their foreign rivals. And improved sales by Japanese companies are good for the Japanese economy, which after all is what the world is pressing for. A healthier economy means a stronger yen, a stronger Asia and less threat to America and Europe.

Nonetheless, Mr. Asher, for one, wonders if Japan is willing to swallow all these pills, and if the rest of the world wants them to, knowing of the short-term consequences for the global economy. "One cannot help but worry whether both the Japanese themselves and the world around Japan are willing to accept two to three more bad years while Japan reorients itself," he said.

Searching for Tibet

The Shangri-La That Never Was



The New York Times

The Potala Palace in Lhasa as it appeared before the Dalai Lama was driven out in 1959. It is now the symbol of Tibetan culture.

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

IN 1888 an American diplomat-turned-adventurer named William Woodville Rockhill set out to explore Tibet, a territory he described in his journal as "a very imperfectly known portion of the Chinese Empire." It still is.

When President Clinton and President Jiang Zemin of China engaged in a public exchange on the subject last week, they spoke for two diametrically opposed lobbies. One, drawing on a largely Western vision of Tibet, sees a Himalayan Shangri-la waiting to be freed from beneath the Chinese boot. The other imagines a territory rescued from a dark and brutal theocracy by a modernizing government in Beijing.

Neither perception, most scholars say, accurately reflects the unique culture that flourished, and still struggles to survive, on the high-altitude Tibetan plateau.

Tibet, a nation that produced one of the world's great medieval empires, striking fear in enemies from Central Asia to the heart of China in the eighth century, did not later develop into a modern, ultimately industrialized nation-state as its counterparts in Europe did. Nor did it sink into the long decline of once-great Islamic civilizations. It became instead a demilitarized, decentralized, isolated country in the shadow of Mongolian and Manchu rulers but dominated by its Buddhist monasteries and lama-kings trying to rule over a collection of quarreling sects. Some of the more hot-headed followers of the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader, now blame the religious powers who disarmed the country for its weakness in the face of Chinese might.

Tibet had all but disappeared for a thousand years before 19th-century explorers cajoled their way to Lhasa, the capital. Their heirs are the seekers of the late 20th century, who have mined Tibet, or perhaps an imagined Tibet, for its nonviolence, spirituality, meditative arts and herbal medicines. Many, spurred by Hollywood's recent films on the subject, have found a cause in the exiled 14th Dalai Lama, driven from his sanctuary in Lhasa by the advancing Chinese Army in 1959.

But by the time the Dalai Lama was arriving in India, another school of thought had seized the imagination of influential intellectuals. Promoted by Beijing and by Westerners who became enamored of Mao Zedong's 1949 revolution, the new vision served to justify the Chinese invasion of Tibet that followed by painting the Tibetan monastic leadership as feudal, oppressive and living on the backs of serfs.

Monastic Fiefs

Searching for historical analogies, the revisionists fell back on familiar European themes, said Christopher I. Beckwith of Indiana University, a linguist and historian of Tibet and China. Friends of China could also draw on accounts — including Rockhill's — of slavery and bonded labor, of vast, corrupt monastic fiefs and abbots who were likely to steal horses. Tibetan monasteries were usually — and many still are — breathtakingly filthy, occasionally ramshackle places where a traveler may find the iconography fascinating but the welcome pretty thin, if not hostile, and the monks less than industrious at any pursuit.

"Sure, Tibet was no paradise, then or now," Professor Beckwith said. "But it certainly wasn't anything like the image, which was directly taken from Western medievalist views of medieval Europe. That's almost a classicist view: When the classical world fell, there was darkness and barbarians crawling around on the ground gnawing bones."

Robert A. F. Thurman of Columbia University, a professor and former Buddhist monk who is considered the leading American expert on Tibetan Buddhism, said the movement to relegate Tibet to the Dark Ages was a byproduct of hearts broken by Stalin.

"When Russian writers began to write about what a monster he was, leftist writers and journalists in the West sat down and conspired, basically," he said. "They said: 'Look, the international movement, the idealistic movement, is going to the dogs and there is no example of any decent thing that's happened because of socialism or communism, and Mao may be the one who is going to do it right.' "

Westerners who glossed over the violence perpetrated on Tibet by the Chinese, Professor Thurman said, also invoked anti-papal sentiments of Northern European Protestants. "They basically presented the Tibetans as kind of Catholics," he said. "They had red robes, they had lush rituals. To the Protestant-minded European population, it was perfect to align them with the corrupt Borgias — princes of the church in all their horrible debauchery and murder and intrigue."

Scholars of Tibet mostly agree that there has been no systematic serfdom in Tibet in centuries. The label was again a Eurocentric one. In 1879, an Indian scholar who had spent his life in the Himalayan area, Sarat Chandra Das, traveled to Lhasa and studied the social order. He found no trace of bonded servitude. He described a place (unlike caste-ridden India) where "the rich may bestow their daughters on the poor; the daughter of a poor man may become the bride of the proudest noble in the country."

But if Tibet's detractors operate on politically inspired myths, the champions of Tibetan independence also have their fantasies. The country was underdeveloped, its people often rapacious and warlike. Tibetan Buddhism is a robust, earthy religion, far less philosophical and pacifist than many of its Western practitioners would like to believe.



Associated Press

Ancient methods were used to punish Tibetan border guards in Lhasa in 1950 after they fired on the party of U.S. Vice Consul Douglas Mackiernan, who died along with three others. The two in stocks received 200 lashes, and the third between 25 and 50.

The Nonviolence Myth

"There is a Buddhist theory of war, of self-defense, and there is also a kind of theory of surgical violence," Professor Thurman said. "The optimal, ideal thing is nonviolence. But sometimes you have to do a little violence to prevent a larger violence. The Buddhists have thought about this and they are not simplistic."

Moreover, Buddhism has not inevitably made the societies it dominates nonviolent. Monks in Sri Lanka have joined or supported extreme Sinhalese nationalists who murdered thousands of "class enemies" in the 1980's. Cambodia's Buddhist society produced the Khmer Rouge. A nominally Buddhist military junta rules Burma.

Geoff Childs, a Tibetan-speaking anthropologist who recently spent a year living in a Tibetan Buddhist village just over the border in Nepal, said romantics in search of otherworldliness often failed to notice the powerful role of economics in religion among Tibetans, who must survive a harsh environment.

His village, 12,000 feet high on the Tibetan plateau, was dominated by lamas — married men, not celibate monks — who believed they had inherited their place in society from the last Tibetan emperors. That gave them spiritual and social influence. But they had turned their high prestige into economic advantage. In return for blessing houses, families and livestock, they were repaid in goods or labor, allowing them to prosper at the expense of their spiritual charges.

Because Tibet has been studied mostly by religious specialists, Mr. Childs said, Westerners have lost the ability to look at it pragmatically.

"It's annoying that people want to make it into one thing or another — it's a Shangri-la, or it's a depraved place," said Professor Beckwith of Indiana University. "It was a normal country. It was a real culture. It still is, though unfortunately in a sad state now. It had everything from human virtue down to the depths of depravity."

Kesang Tseten, a Tibetan writer living in Katmandu, said some Tibetan exiles have begun to complain that the reality of their life has been overtaken by Hollywood. "It's true Tibet has been imbued by Western imaginations of the subject," he said. "Does this mean we're going to be bound by how others see us?" Not, he said, if Tibetans themselves "get a little real."

The Nation

With Enemies Like That, They Don't Need Friends

By JILL ABRAMSON

WASHINGTON

LAST week, from faraway California, Monica Lewinsky watched her former best friend, Linda Tripp, take center stage in Washington as marquee witness for the Whitewater independent counsel, Kenneth W. Starr.

To say that Ms. Lewinsky harbors bitter feelings toward Ms. Tripp, who secretly taped 20 hours of their intimate conversations and then took her suspicions of a sexual relationship between Ms. Lewinsky and President Clinton to Mr. Starr, would be a "gross understatement," according to one close associate of Ms. Lewinsky. Ms. Lewinsky's father, for one, calls Ms. Tripp "a pathetic specimen of humanity."

The ruptured relations between Ms. Lewinsky and

Allegations about an intern led to the end of many Washington relationships.

Ms. Tripp, who became acquainted while both were working at the Pentagon in 1996, is but one of many friendships blown to smithereens during Mr. Starr's six months of digging into allegations of White House sex and cover-up.

In a city that should be inured to scandal by now, the Lewinsky imbroglio has strained old social customs and upended many long friendships. The capital, after all, has long prized its tradition of having partisan warriors spar by day and sip cocktails together by night. Even at the height of Watergate, Republican White House aides kept their social back channels open to their Democratic brethren.

Nowadays, hardly a Georgetown dinner for 12 can be had without open warfare breaking out when the topic of the President and the intern is broached. Some hostesses have made it known when invitations are issued that Topic A is verboten.

"The schism this has created is extraordinary," observed Sally Quinn, the author and hostess. "It's shattered the social fabric of Washington and turned the place into a walking war zone."

Personal Debris

The war zone extends beyond the Beltway to other environs touched by the Lewinsky imbroglio. The personal debris floating in the scandal's wake already extends from coast to coast.

Back in Los Angeles, the lawyer William H. Ginsburg, dismissed last month as Ms. Lewinsky's attorney, is no longer a trusted family friend. (Mr. Ginsburg once shared on television his happy memories of kissing baby Monica's inner thighs, which he called "those little poulkes.") The California malpractice specialist had been hired to represent Ms. Lewinsky in the first frenzied hours of Mr. Starr's inquiry precisely because he was an old friend of her father, Bernard Lewinsky, an oncologist. But all the Lewinskys grew disenchanted with both Mr. Ginsburg's lawyering and his addiction to appearing on television. Large and unitemized legal bills have further inflamed the ill will, according to one lawyer representing the Lewinsky family.

The lines between the White House and George Stephanopoulos, who is about to unsheathe his memoirs in New York, have also gone cold. President Clinton is said by White House aides to be furious over his former adviser's critical television commentary on the Lewinsky matter (Mr. Stephanopoulos is a regular contributor to ABC's Sunday public affairs program, "This Week"). The animosity felt for Mr. Stephanopoulos, who says he feels obliged to speak truthfully as a television analyst, go beyond the President and include the White House adviser Rahm Emmanuel and other veterans of the 1992 Clinton campaign who worked closely with the former aide-turned-author.

The silent treatment has not been the only means of expressing hurt feelings and anger over the investigation. In the middle of an upscale Richmond supermarket, Kathleen Willey, a former White House volunteer, had an



Associated Press

Monica Lewinsky, the confider.



Agence France Presse

Linda Tripp, the confidante.

angry confrontation with her former best friend, Julie Steele, whom Ms. Willey had pressed to back up her account of having received an unwanted grope from Mr. Clinton. Ms. Willey and Ms. Steele, who have both been called before Mr. Starr's grand jury, were once so close that their families vacationed together. But ever since Ms. Steele failed to back up Ms. Willey's story to a journalist, the two women have not been on speaking terms.

There has also been much speculation over whether the Starr investigation ruptured relations between Mr. Clinton and his best friend, Vernon Jordan. Mr. Jordan has been called before Mr. Starr's grand jury repeatedly (he made what was expected to be his final appearance last month) to answer questions about the help he gave Ms. Lewinsky finding a lawyer and a job.

A Golf Void

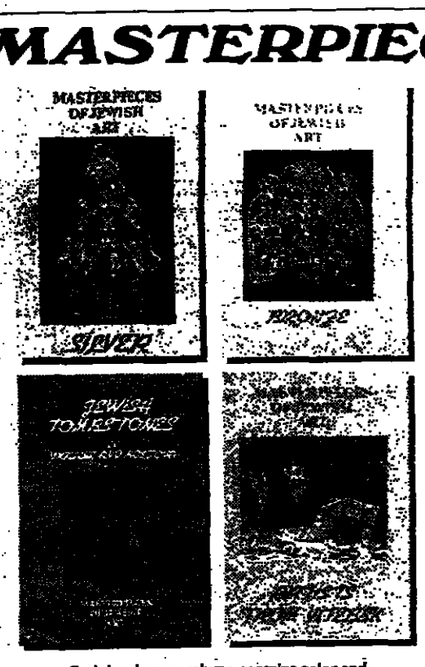
Mr. Jordan, who has defended the propriety of his help to Ms. Lewinsky, has not been seen much in public with the President, with whom he used to enjoy frequent golf outings.

Last month, however, Mr. Jordan did resurface at the White House at a state dinner for the President of South Korea. And the Clintons will be vacationing next month in Martha's Vineyard, where Mr. Jordan is a mainstay of the island's social set.

The frosty feelings are hardly limited to the figures directly involved in Mr. Starr's probe. Some of the journalists who are covering the Lewinsky saga are also at each other's throats. The columnist and legal analyst Stuart Taylor Jr. worked from 1989 to last year for Steven Brill, the author of a scathing article about Mr. Starr and the Washington press corps. In the maiden issue of Brill's Content, Mr. Brill's new magazine, he called Mr. Taylor, who had recently attended a party for one of Mr. Brill's daughters, "the complete anti-Clinton partisan." In his own column in the weekly magazine National Journal, Mr. Taylor responded, accusing Mr. Brill of taking an unfair "potshot" and defending his criticisms of President Clinton as objective, not partisan. The two have not spoken since the debut of the magazine, and Mr. Taylor's column referred to their friendship in the past tense.

Ms. Quinn said she expected more relationships to fray as the investigation slogs on through a long, hot Washington summer. "This is worse than even the final days of Nixon," she said. "No one has come out of this with all their friendships intact."

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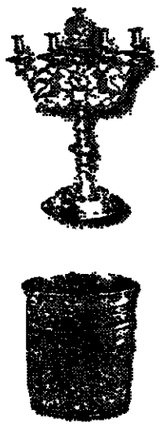


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Welfare As We No Longer Know It

Continued from page 9

welfare is changing in profound ways," said Elaine Ryan, a director of the American Public Welfare Association, which will soon be called the American Public Human Services Association to reflect a wider membership and revamped thinking.

How to Fish

Or as Adrianne Flemming, who runs the new job center in Brooklyn with her team of financial planners, likes to say: "In the welfare offices, we were handing out fish. In the job centers, we're teaching people how to fish."

But while Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani proudly touts the conversion of welfare offices into job centers, he declines to say how many people actually leave those with jobs.

In fact, a draft memo included in a training manual for workers describes employment as a "secondary goal" at the job centers. The "primary goal," the memo says, is discouraging the poor from applying for public assistance.

The city can't say how many people leave job centers with jobs.

Advocates for the poor say the whole naming process sounds suspiciously like sloganeering that will appeal to voters but help few welfare recipients find work.

"I can change my name to the division of workforce development, but if there are not enough jobs out there for the people who walk in my door, none of that matters," Ms. Krueger said. "Does it mean more poor people are getting jobs in New York City? I don't think so. It's a lot easier to change a name than to create jobs for people."

City officials insist, however, that finding jobs for the poor is still the program's primary goal. They vow it will be emphasized as New York transforms all 31 of its welfare offices into job centers over the next year. The new signs and letterhead are already on order.

But as the painters paint and the printers print, will no one mourn the passing of a familiar word? Gary Weeks, who headed the name change committee for the American Public Welfare Association, thinks not. He found little nostalgia among members who wanted a new look to reflect the growing importance of health services along with the shift in welfare thinking.

"I don't think we lost anything," said Mr. Weeks, who runs Oregon's welfare program. "No one was on a soapbox for keeping the terminology."

Ideas & Trends

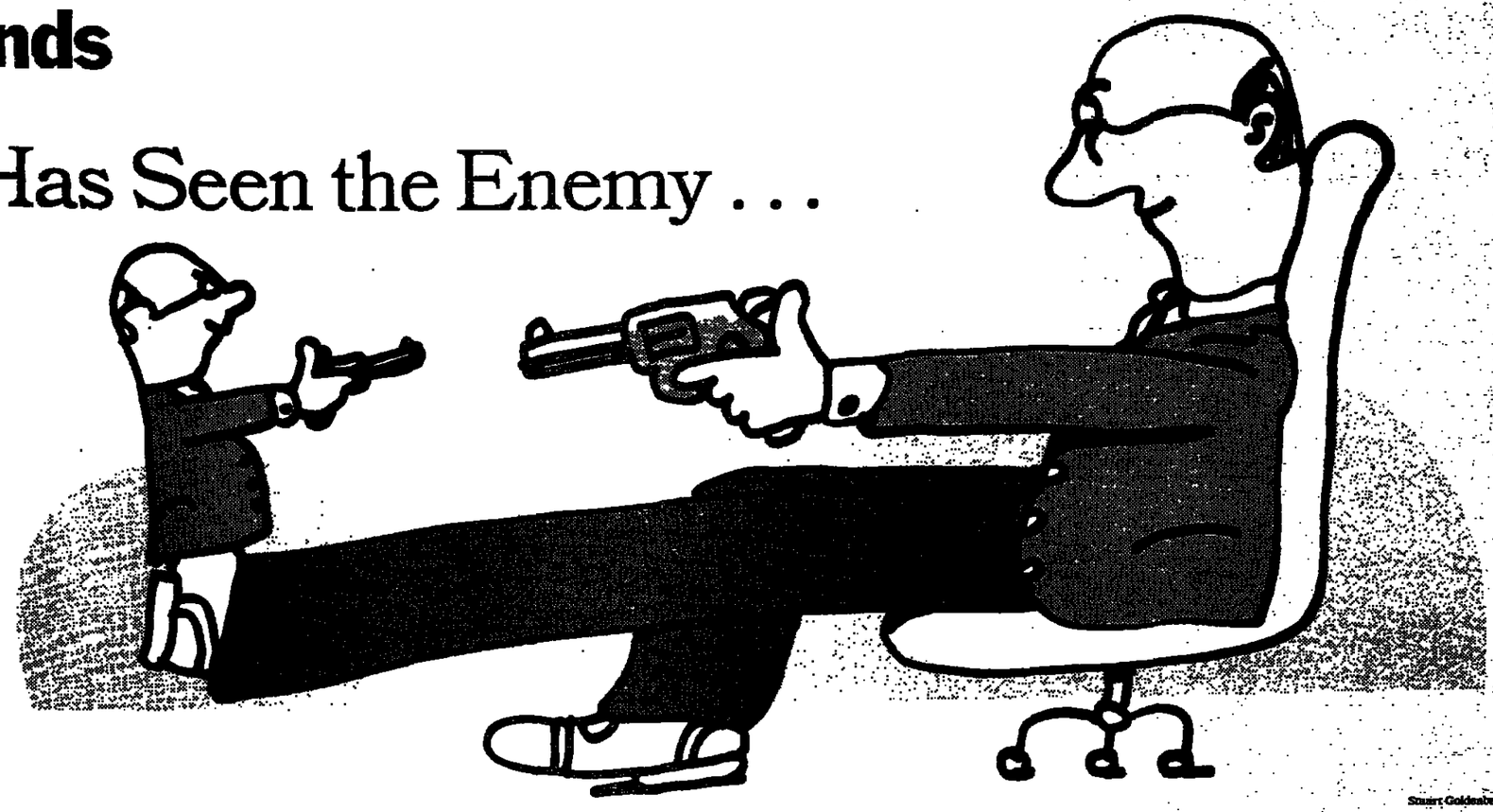
Microsoft Has Seen the Enemy . . .

By STEVE LOHR

A MONOPOLIST is big and bad. He has the muscle to dictate prices and bully competitors and consumers, both of whom are powerless to resist the monopolist's will. Enter the Microsoft Corporation, accused by the Government of being a monopolist, and its new computer operating system, Windows 98, which will play a starring role in the monopoly case that the Justice Department will present to a Federal judge in September.

Windows 98 went on sale 10 days ago and, according to PC Data, a market research firm, the early results are quite respectable — about the same as the first days of sales for its predecessor, Windows 95. Still, since there are now about 300 million machines running earlier versions of Windows — more than twice the number when Windows 95 was introduced — the early sales are not a runaway success.

Monopolist perhaps, but Microsoft cannot utterly control the pace at which its new products are accepted in the marketplace.



Stuart Goldenberg

Bill Gates's biggest competitor may be his own company, which can't control the pace at which people shop.

There are many stragglers in the Microsoft-led march of technology. The company's biggest competitor is often itself, as consumers keep using old Microsoft products instead of adopting the new ones — a phenomenon that curbs the company's freedom to raise prices, oddly becoming one line of defense in the monopoly case.

Fewer Upgrades

Industry predictions of how well Windows 98 will sell vary. But most analysts expect that the number of people who will spend $89 to put Windows 98 on their old machines — called the upgrade market, as opposed to new machines that will have Windows 98 already installed — to be roughly 40 percent below the level for Windows 95, comparing both products in their first year.

Eying such numbers, some analysts say they see little evidence that Microsoft looks, walks or quacks like a monopoly. "Look at those low upgrade percentages," said Robert A. Levy, a senior fellow at the libertarian Cato Institute, "and it hardly demonstrates coercive monopoly power, which is what the antitrust laws are concerned with."

If the Government is to win its antitrust suit, it must convince the courts that Microsoft is indeed a monopoly and that the company has abused its monopoly power to stifle competition. "The Government could lose this case on the monopoly power issue alone," said Charles F. Rule, a former head of the Justice Department's antitrust division, who is an adviser to Microsoft.

Market share, pricing power and the ability to restrict competition are three key factors the courts typically take into account in determining whether a company has the market muscle of a monopolist.

Microsoft argues that even though it holds about 90 percent of the market for personal computer operating systems — the software equivalent of a machine's central nervous system — it faces competition on every front. Its rivals range from other operating systems, like Apple's Macintosh and Linux, which is distributed free on the Internet, to other software products that seek to undermine the central role of Windows in computing — like Netscape's program for browsing the World Wide Web and Sun's Java, an Internet programming language.

So Microsoft regards itself as constantly under assault and any position of market strength to be fleeting, as William H. Gates, the Microsoft chairman, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee in March. "The fact that we have kept our prices very low, about 3 percent of the price of a PC, is because of the competition," Mr. Gates said.

The price-restraining competition comes not only from outside rivals but also from within. Windows 95 is the most popular desktop operating system in use today, but only by a slight margin over older versions of Windows. By the end of 1997, according to Dataquest, a market research firm, Windows 95 was in use on 145 million machines worldwide while 140 million machines were running versions of the earlier Windows 3 — mainly 3.0 introduced in 1990, and 3.1 in 1992.

Losing on Two Fronts

Unable to convince a large share of computer users to buy its more recent operating systems, Microsoft thus loses sales of both newer versions of Windows and its newer software applications from word processors to games, which are tailored to run on Windows 95 and now Windows 98. "The slow move from the Windows 3.x family is perhaps the biggest thorn in Microsoft's side," said Chris LeTocq, an analyst at Dataquest.

If the company raised the price of Windows to consumers, even fewer computer users would upgrade their machines. "Microsoft is in essence competing with itself, and that inhibits its ability to raise prices," noted Mr. Rule, the Microsoft adviser.

To be sure, many students of modern software markets say the company protests too much. Microsoft, they say, may not resemble an old-style monopolist, but it is a high-tech model of the same species. "Microsoft has a huge market share, it can push people around, it enjoys monopolistic profits and venture capitalists will not invest in an area that Microsoft is in — all those things speak to its dominant market position and its market power," said Steven Salop, a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center. "I don't think the Justice Department is going to have any trouble proving Microsoft is a monopoly."

Most Americans, it seems, share that view. When asked if they thought Microsoft was a monopoly or not, 53 percent of those surveyed in a New York Times/CBS poll last month replied that Microsoft was a monopoly, while 30 percent said it was not.

Defining Disability

AIDS Virus Case Opens Door for Infertile

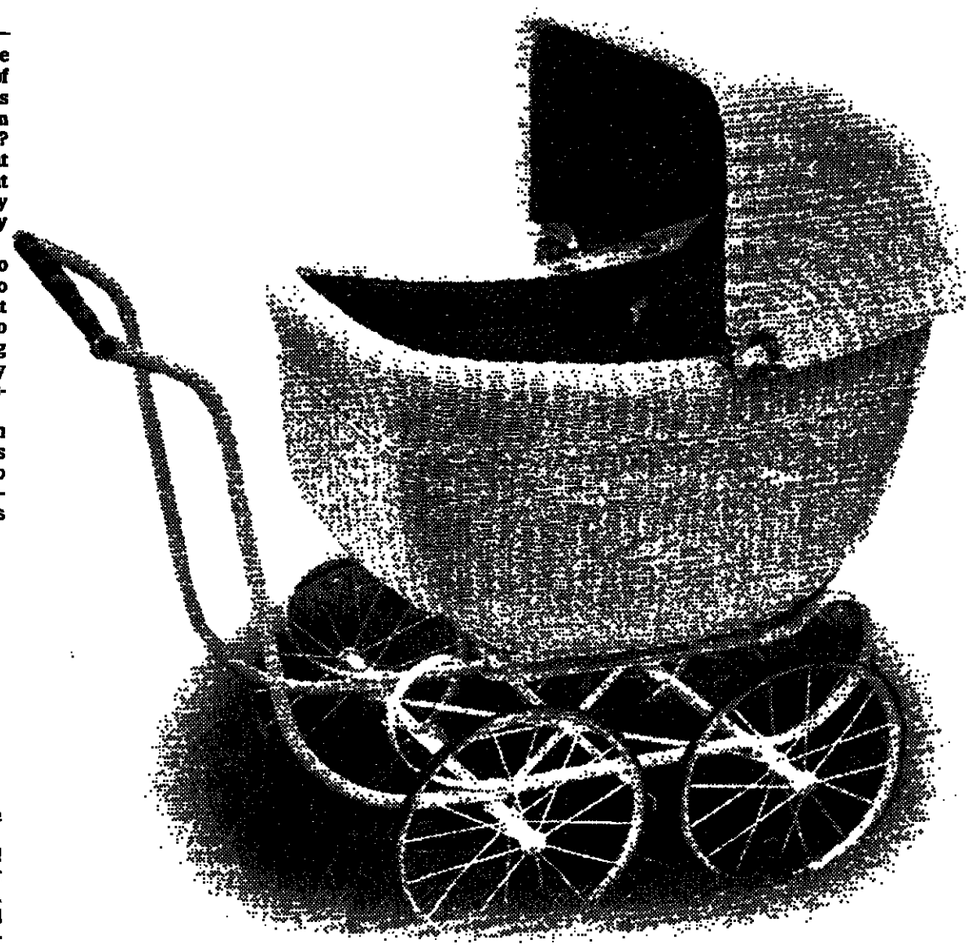
By ESTHER B. FEIN

A 40-YEAR-OLD woman struggling to conceive a baby is told by her doctor that the quality of her eggs is poor and the lining of her uterus doesn't replenish itself well enough to sustain a pregnancy. Is she fairly average, or is she disabled?

The Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 last month that reproduction was a "major life activity" and that when a person's ability to reproduce is substantially limited she (or he) meets the definition of disability under the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The case, Bragdon v. Abbott, actually had little to do with infertility; it centered on a dentist's refusal to treat a woman who was infected with the virus that causes AIDS. She was not infertile, but had decided to forego childbearing because of the danger of passing on the virus. So her reproduction was effectively impaired, the court said, and she qualified for protection under the act.

Advocates for the infertile seized on the decision as a victory for all people whose ability to procreate is impaired. It is the legal wedge they need, they said, to win broader insurance coverage for infertility treatments and to force employers to adjust work schedules to accommodate the treatments.



A court decision on AIDS discrimation will be used to push for help with reproductive problems.

But experts say it is by no means certain that the courts will make that conceptual leap.

"This decision is a really strong tool for us," said Diane Wachenhein, government affairs director for Resolve, a national infertility advocacy organization. The treatments can be "very time consuming and debilitating," she said, adding that insurance companies and employers often view them as elective and do not cover them.

The ruling, several health-law experts said, is more likely to prod employers to give employees time to undergo infertility treatments than it is to push them to expand insurance coverage.

The Old-Fashioned Way

George J. Annas, chairman of the health law department at Boston University's School of Public Health, said the case would force businesses to accommodate the treatment schedules of infertile people just as they now accommodate women who are pregnant or recovering from childbirth.

Insurance is another matter, he said, adding that the disabilities act is not meant to create new rights. "It provides that you cannot be discriminated against," Mr. Annas said. "Doctors are not obliged to care for any disability for nothing, insurers are not required to cover all disabilities for no extra charge.

"And in terms of the new reproductive technology and what businesses will have to cover, this ruling doesn't say anything. In fact, it assumes that reproduction occurs the traditional way: a man and a woman having sex and a woman giving birth."

Still, with this case now part of the legal arsenal, experts said many businesses might try to find a way to accommodate infertile employees in order to avoid expensive, protracted litigation.

Earlier this year, Chicago agreed to cover infertility treatments for its employees and to pay $1.5 million worth of claims that had been denied over the previous 10 years. The settlement came after a judge ruled that infertility was a disability under Federal law. The case was brought by a Chicago police officer, Anita Bielicki, who paid thousands of dollars for infertility treatments that resulted in the births of two children. Illinois is one of only a few states that mandate coverage of infertility treatments, but because the City of Chicago was self-insured, under Federal law it is exempt from the requirement.

Thinking About Menopause

"Clearly and rightfully the Abbott case gives litigants a first step," said Wendy Parmett, a professor specializing in health and disability law at Northeastern University Law School who, with Bennett H. Klein, represented Ms. Abbott in the Supreme Court case. "And I do believe that many insurers' refusal to cover these treatments, or setting caps on treatment, violates the letter and spirit of the law."

Still, she said, legal hurdles remain.

One key question is whether all infertility is an impairment that is covered by the disabilities act.

"Not everyone whose fertility is impaired and is seeking treatment falls within the parameter of this law," Ms. Parmett said.

Among the unanswered questions, Ms. Parmett said, is whether women in or near menopause should be considered disabled. "The term infertile is very broadly encompassing, but the ramifications of this finding may not be," she said.

Mr. Annas suggests that one way to distinguish the disabled infertile (for example, women in their 20's, or those whose ovaries were removed because of cancer or other diseases) from those who are infertile because of their age would be to create statistical probability charts for becoming pregnant without assistance for every age.

"If more than half the people at your age can't have a baby without help," he said, "then it's not a disability. It's the norm."

Sure Justices Legislate. It's Because They Must.

Continued from page 9

"These opinions typically contain invitations to Congress, sometimes almost a tone of entreaty as if to say, here it is, here's our best shot, somebody had to do this, but tell us if we got it wrong," Professor Friedman said in an interview. The Court's statutory decision-making provides "a unique opportunity for dialogue between Congress and the Court," he said.

That a dialogue does take place is not just political science theory. When the Court changed course on civil rights in 1989, issuing a series of newly restrictive interpretations curbing Federal civil rights laws, Congress responded with the Civil Rights Act of 1991, which restored the legislators' original understanding of the laws and even added new teeth to some of them.

Talking About Civil Rights

Both Justices Anthony M. Kennedy and David H. Souter addressed that history in their majority opinions last month in the sexual harassment cases. They noted that Congress could have used the 1991 law to express disapproval of the Court's earlier sexual harassment decisions along with the other civil rights rulings, but did not do so, indicating that the Court was on the right track in having brought sexual harassment within the scope of Federal civil rights law.

"In its day-to-day business, Congress is quite comfortable with the courts working out the details, as long as there remains a basis in the text," said Professor Michael Dorf of Columbia Law School.

Ambiguous statutory language can itself be seen as "a kind of delegation" to administrative agencies and ultimately to courts, he said.

For years, the Court has debated how closely, in interpreting statutes, to hold Congress to the plain meaning of the actual text, as opposed to gleaning whatever added information about Congress's intent might be available from the legislative record. Justice Scalia is the primary exponent of the "textualist" school — still a minority view, but an influential one.

Back Seat Driving

On the surface, the textualist approach may convey the impression of passivity, of the Court taking a back seat to Congress. But in fact, it does not remove the Court from the business of lawmaking any more than any other approach to statutory interpretation; it allows the Court to ignore competing interpretations contained in the legislative or administrative record.

"Scalia's focus on the text often means that it's the Court, and the Court alone, that is going to decide what the right answer is," Professor Dorf said.

It's not likely that a future judicial nominee, after listening to a Senator's lecture about not legislating from the bench, will be tempted to counter with a paraphrase of Thomas Jefferson's "We are all Republicans — We are all Federalists." But in comparison to the standard homily, "We are all judges — We are all lawmakers" might be closer to the truth of how the system actually works.

هكذا من الأصل

ECONOMY

In a Diet of Deals, Complex Finances Distort Results

By REED ABELSON

THEY are serial acquirers — companies that play Pac-Man by gobbling up other companies, paying for the purchases with high-priced stock. It's a cycle that feeds voraciously on itself: The more a company acquires, the higher the stock price, fueling even more acquisitions.

The buyers include companies like Republic Industries and Nationsbank, Cendant and Worldcom. They promise investors that they will make money by transforming industries, providing tremendous economies of scale and greater efficiencies.

Early in the cycle, it may indeed work out that way. But investors can find it impossible to tell when the game is about to come to a grinding halt — rudely punishing the acquirer's stock.

Shares in the newly formed Cendant Corporation lost nearly half their value after the company disclosed in April that one of its businesses, the former CUC International, had overstated earnings. Waste Management's troubled accounting and ill-fated diversification attempts eventually crushed its shares and are driving the company into the arms of a rival. U.S. Office Products' profits have slumped and the company recently ended up spinning off four units composed of some of its purchases.

What all serial acquirers — the successful and the not-so-successful — have in common is that their finances can confound even the most sophisticated investors. Buyers of these companies' stocks must decide whether to risk being swept up in the deal-making in the hopes of riding a stock up further. The sheer complexity of putting together dozens of companies or more — in each of its most frantic years, Waste Management bought as many as 100 companies — makes it nearly impossible to see whether the acquiring company's strategy is working.

Adding to the confusion is that many of these companies employ accounting sleight of hand; in perfectly legal maneuvers, they mask the real cost of their acquisitions through write-offs, leaving the buyers looking more profitable than they really are.

In sorting this out, investors get little help from Wall Street analysts, who often play along. After all, corporations can come down hard on naysayers. Thomas K. Brown, until recently a banking analyst for Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, long criticized the acquisition strategy of the First Union Corporation, which has made more than 70 acquisitions since 1985. As a result, he said, he was excluded from one-on-one meetings at First Union's headquarters in Charlotte, N.C. (First Union said it had never refused to meet with Mr. Brown.)

Another analyst, who asked not to be identified, recalled being threatened with a lawsuit by one serial acquirer after publicly questioning its purchases. Why the heavy-handed treatment? "So much depends on the stock price," he surmised.

Analysts can also be reluctant to look too closely at any one transaction for fear that their company might lose the lucrative investment banking fees on the acquirer's next deal.

A result of this combination of complexity and analysts' see-no-evil, speak-no-evil approach is that the guidepost usually followed by investors — the analysts' estimated growth rate of earnings — can vary so wildly for these companies as to be nearly meaningless. Analysts following Worldcom, for example, peg its annual earnings growth rate at anywhere from 20 percent to more than 50 percent, a range that suggests they are doing little more than guessing.

A close look at three of these companies — Worldcom, First Union and United States Filter — illustrates the challenges for investors in evaluating a serial acquirer.



Davis Barber for The New York Times

Richard J. Heckmann is the chief executive of U.S. Filter.



Nancy Peters for The New York Times

Edward E. Crutchfield, the chairman of First Union.



Associated Press

Bernard J. Ebbers, the chief executive of Worldcom.

Worldcom

Snazzier Results Via a Juggling Act

Looking at the financial results of a serial acquirer is difficult enough. But making it even more difficult to decipher performance are accounting techniques that allow companies to erase "goodwill" — a measure of how much a company pays over the book value of an acquisition — and thereby insure that their future earnings do not reflect the hefty price of their purchases.

For Worldcom Inc., the strategy of gobbling up other telecommunications players, mostly through stock-based purchases, has been a raging success to date. "They actually understand their business and make moves that are strategically intelligent," said Michael J. Mahoney, who owns the stock as the manager of the AIM Global Telecommunications fund. Shares of Worldcom, which is based in Jackson, Miss., have gained an average of around 50 percent annually over the last three years.

The overwhelming majority of analysts who follow Worldcom continue to urge investors to buy the stock, despite the drastic changes ahead as the company swells more than four times its current size with its pending $37 billion acquisition of the MCI Communications Corporation. (The final purchase price depends on a number of factors, including the price of Worldcom's stock.)

The analysts' logic goes something like this:

Worldcom is expected to earn $1.95 a share in 1999. With an estimated long-term growth rate around 30 percent a year, the stock can command a price-to-earnings multiple of 25 to 30, roughly in line with its growth rate. Presto: The stock is worth $48.75 to $58.50, making it a buy at its current price of $50.1875.

In that equation, however, the key number is the growth rate. On its own, MCI has been a much slower grower than Worldcom, says Anthony F. Ferrugia, an analyst at A. G. Edwards and one of the rare members of his profession not pushing the stock. And Worldcom is paying a huge premium for MCI. So while there may be substantial savings when the two companies combine, it is not at all clear to him how fast the combined company can grow.

"When I look at all those numbers, I don't have a crystal ball," Mr. Ferrugia said.

Mr. Mahoney acknowledges that achieving the projection of 30 percent-plus growth "takes everything working."

It also takes a little accounting magic. Over the last two years, Worldcom has managed to bolster its future earnings by a little more than $2.5 billion by making a like amount of goodwill vanish through write-offs, which are usually discounted by investors as one-time anomalies.

The technique used by Worldcom is becoming increasing popular, particularly when, because they have been buying back stock or for other reasons, companies cannot treat an acquisition as a pooling of interests, in which no goodwill is created. Instead, the buyer contends that some part of the price of a purchase is acquired research, which must be written off immediately under current accounting rules.

That, effectively, increases future earnings by reducing the amount of goodwill amortized each year, a figure that is subtracted from earnings on a company's income statement. For acquirers, the attraction of this technique is that management gets to determine how much goodwill it can write off: it is the buyer that assigns a value to the acquired research, although managements bring in appraisers to help.

"It is a very, very subjective estimate," said Baruch Lev, a professor at New York University's Stern School of Business who has recently completed a study of the technique.

What concerns Professor Lev is the possibility that investors are failing to discount such companies' future higher earnings. "Some of this growth in earnings and high return on equity will turn out to be bogus," he predicted.

Look at what would happen to Worldcom's earnings-per-share numbers if the company had not taken those write-offs in the last two years. If it had amortized the goodwill over 20 years — Worldcom's practice varies from 10 years to 40 years — it would have eliminated roughly $125 million a year in goodwill expenses, or around 12 cents a share. If estimated 1999 earnings were, therefore, $1.83 a share, the stock, at a multiple of 25 to 30, would today be worth $45.75 to $54.90. And that would make it less of a buy.

Investors should be prepared to see the same technique used when Worldcom completes its merger with MCI, which is expected to result in about $25 billion in goodwill, the premium it is paying for MCI. Worldcom may write off some of that sum as acquired research — about $3 billion, according to the company. "It could very well be a higher number," added Gary Brandt, Worldcom's vice president for investor relations.

Kevin M. Moore, an analyst with BT Alex. Brown, dismisses the significance of Worldcom's accounting treatment. "The creation of goodwill is an accounting charge and does not change its cash flow," Mr. Moore said, adding that the latter is the most important measure in determining what a company is worth.

And he is not concerned about how Bernard J. Ebbers, Worldcom's chief executive, arrives at his results. "As long as they do $2, however they do it is fine with me," he said.

Professor Lev counters that analysts rely heavily on earnings in valuing companies, so how they come up with those numbers is important.

"Accounting is accountability," he said, adding that managers have little incentive to pay less for an acquisition if they do not have to account for its full price.

U.S. Filter

How Fast Does Your Company Grow?

Serial acquirers are so difficult to analyze because of the guesswork in determining even the most basic information about a company. How fast would it grow if it had made no acquisitions? How fast are its new businesses growing?

Few companies have been shopping as busily as the United States Filter Corporation, which has completed more than 150 acquisitions since 1991 — roughly 60 in the last year alone — to become the nation's largest provider of water-treatment systems.

There is a logic to the strategy of the company, which is based in Palm Desert, Calif. "You have an industry that's just ripe for consolidation," said Patrick S. Adams, a portfolio manager for Berger Associates in Denver who owns the stock.

But keeping track of all of U.S. Filter's activities is nearly impossible. Its frenetically acquired operations range from waste-water treatment plants to the sale of bottled water. And the sheer number of purchases means that most investors do not know how quickly certain businesses are growing and how profitable they are.

"How many people have done real in-depth models for every division they've acquired?" asked one portfolio manager, who has owned the stock but asked not to be identified. "Probably no one."

The real mystery may be the company's internal growth rate, which is the measure of how quickly U.S. Filter is increasing its business without the benefit of all of its acquisitions. Like a lot of companies, U.S. Filter will tell curious analysts what that rate is — somewhere in the vicinity of 10 percent — but the figure never appears in the financial statements available to the average investor. "It is an estimate, yes," said Tim L. Traff, a co-founder of the company and its executive vice president for development.

And while U.S. Filter has been quick to supply anecdotal evidence of how its purchases have fared, a more systematic appraisal is essentially impossible, because the company does not provide detailed information about every purchase, said Rod Lache, an analyst at Deutsche Bank Securities. Mr. Lache, who nevertheless recommends the stock, concedes that the anecdotes "are not helpful in modeling" the company's future performance.

In fact, figuring out how U.S. Filter's purchases have fared proved so challenging that the Securities and Exchange Commission asked the company earlier this year to improve the disclosure in the company's public financial statements.

The S.E.C. declined to comment, and the company said its discussions with the commission were routine.

Like Worldcom, U.S. Filter seems to be a master of accounting wizardry, which contributes to the difficultly in estimating future earnings growth.

According to the Center for Financial Research and Analysis, a group in Rockville, Md., that studies corporate accounting for professional investors, U.S. Filter took several charges in its December quarter that could help inflate future earnings. The company's acquisition last month of Culligan Water Technologies for $1.5 billion in stock complicates matters further because Culligan itself made more than 35 acquisitions in its most recent fiscal year and took several charges.

U.S. Filter defends its accounting as appropriate and has promised to take away at least some of the mystery. Starting with its quarterly results due out in August, the company said, it plans to disclose more information about its individual divisions, like their revenues and operating margins.

First Union

Share Sags May Spur Game Plan Change

Eventually, analysts and investors can judge the results of a serial acquirer's strategy. If they grow skeptical — even sending the stock down on news of another purchase — a company may send its Pac-Man strategy packing. First Union seems to be taking that step.

In the whirl of acquisitions among banks, First Union has been among the busiest, growing from a single-state bank with about $7 billion in assets in 1984 to a 12-state banking giant with $220 billion in assets.

But some analysts and investors have grown sharply critical of the bank's strategy and say its acquisitions have diluted its earnings. The market's judgment is that First Union has overpaid for its purchases, using stock with a relatively low price-to-earnings multiple to pay for companies with higher P/E ratios. "Guess what — that causes dilution," said Mr. Brown, the early critic of First Union. He is now working for Tiger Management, a money manager in New York.

The company's stock has certainly suffered. Over the last five years, First Union has returned 184 percent, compared with a 304 percent gain in the Standard & Poor's large-bank index. On the day last November when First Union announced it would buy Corestates Financial in a $17.1 billion deal, First Union's stock lost more than $2 a share — roughly a 4 percent drop. Regardless of the bank's efforts to show that its acquisitions make sense, "the market is saying that these deals do not have as much economic value," said David Ellison, a portfolio manager for the brokerage firm Friedman, Billings, Ramsey.

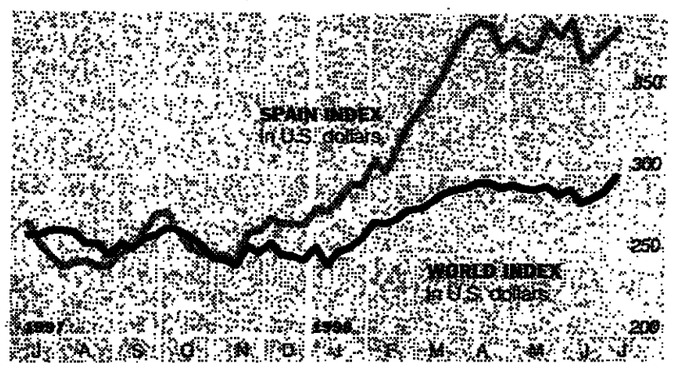
First Union has apparently heard Wall Street's complaints. Edward E. Crutchfield, its acquisitive chairman, is now telling analysts and investors that the bank will not pursue deals in which it must pay a premium, like its acquisition of Corestates, but instead will look for a partner with which to achieve a "merger of equals."

Mr. Ellison, for one, is not so easily convinced. He said First Union's management, having watched the bank's stock suffer, would try to increase the P/E ratio. Cynics might argue that executives are trying to get "the currency up so they can do a deal," he said.

In general, it pays to be skeptical of any company whose fast growth is largely a result of a frenetic buying spree.

And that is why investors who are interested in reducing their risks might want to consider sitting out this particular game.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by the Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS							IN LOCAL CURR.	
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.
Australia	193.70	6.6	4	– 3.2	18	3.77	210.25	2.9
Austria	230.07	– 1.2	29	21.7	10	1.56	217.78	23.3
Belgium	377.33	3.1	10	48.3	2	1.95	349.71	50.4
Brazil	214.99	3.0	11	– 9.8	20	2.23	457.75	– 6.6
Britain	387.15	0.9	21	16.7	13	2.88	346.11	15.8
Canada	233.17	0.9	20	9.8	15	1.63	247.62	12.5
Denmark	499.58	– 1.0	28	11.7	14	1.37	471.60	13.2
Finland	454.69	4.6	7	63.3	1	1.74	528.56	66.1
France	327.61	– 0.1	23	36.9	5	1.88	313.66	38.9
Germany	303.78	– 0.4	26	32.4	7	1.15	287.77	34.2
Hong Kong	258.03	2.4	12	–27.7	25	6.12	256.69	–27.7
Indonesia	31.92	12.9	1	–51.7	28	2.39	284.89	27.9
Ireland	532.95	1.5	16	32.7	6	1.79	543.61	36.9
Italy	162.42	1.4	17	38.1	4	1.36	217.73	40.2
Japan	93.90	7.5	3	– 1.5	17	0.94	83.77	7.0
Malaysia	122.02	1.2	18	–25.8	24	3.20	196.67	–20.2
Mexico	1,400.32	3.9	8	–22.3	23	1.98	13,751.02	–13.5
Netherlands	522.57	2.1	13	27.5	8	1.91	489.92	29.2
New Zealand	61.58	5.1	6	–19.4	21	4.78	63.63	– 8.9
Norway	302.61	– 0.1	24	– 5.3	19	1.96	319.37	– 0.1
Philippines	78.28	11.0	2	– 1.3	16	1.06	161.50	2.4
Singapore	154.70	5.7	5	–31.3	26	2.50	121.43	–30.5
South Africa	213.50	–10.0	30	–19.5	22	3.06	292.59	3.7
Spain	388.01	1.2	19	42.8	3	1.70	454.46	44.8
Sweden	590.13	– 0.4	25	25.7	9	1.65	707.24	28.2
Switzerland	411.87	1.7	14	20.9	11	1.06	391.14	26.9
Thailand	12.50	0.2	22	–35.2	27	13.03	20.43	–43.4
United States	468.81	1.6	15	18.3	12	1.38	468.81	18.3
COMPOSITE INDICES								
Europe	364.31	0.8		26.0		1.96	348.66	27.3
Pacific Basin	99.97	6.9		– 5.6		1.67	89.46	1.5
Europe/Pacific	210.13	2.4		15.3		1.88	187.25	18.5
World	294.72	1.9		16.1		1.62	272.92	17.8

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.
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CURRENCIES

Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	140.70	142.44	–1.22	113.64
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.8210	1.8105	+0.57	1.7516
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.4677	1.4684	–0.04	1.3733
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6588	1.6625	–0.22	1.6910

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

UPS AND DOWNS

June 29–July 2: A Contented Fed Leaves Rates Alone; Stocks and Bonds Gain

Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream, Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's, Ryan Labs

PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES

Broad market S.&P. 500 index	Up 1.17%	1,146.42
Blue chips Dow 30 industrials	Up 0.90%	9,025.26
Small capitalization Russell 2000 index	Up 1.79%	458.31

DOMESTIC BONDS

Treasuries Ryan Labs Total Return	Up 0.39%	222.67
Municipals Bond Buyer index	Up 0.28%	124.19
Corporates Merrill Lynch Master index	Up 0.15%	978.80

AROUND THE WORLD

European stocks F.T.-Actuaries Europe	Up 1.44%	364.31
Asian stocks F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	Up 7.40%	99.97
Gold New York cash price	Up 0.44%	$295.00

Foreign indexes are given in dollar terms

YIELDS

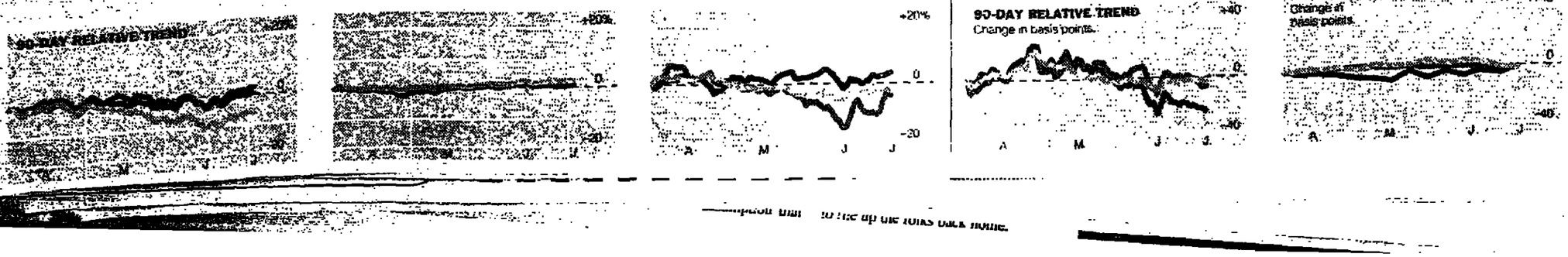
BONDS

Long bonds 30-year Treasuries	5.60%	Down 3 basis pts.
Notes 2-year Treasuries	5.43%	Down 6 basis pts.
Municipals Bond Buyer index	5.21%	Down 2 basis pts.

100 basis points = 1 percentage point

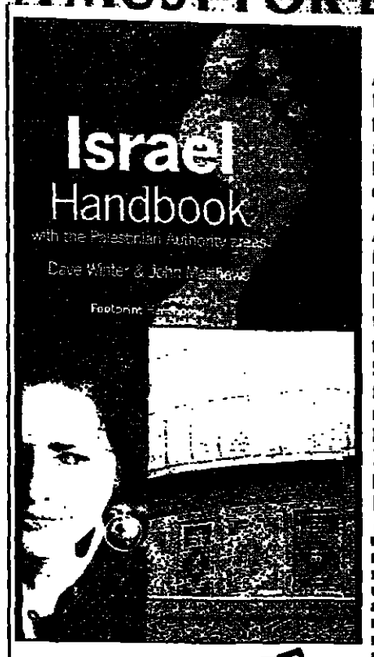
OTHER INVESTMENTS

Money market funds Taxable average	5.04%	Up 4 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s 1-year small savers	4.95%	Down 1 basis pt.
Stocks S.&P. 500 dividend yield	1.40%	Down 1 b.p.



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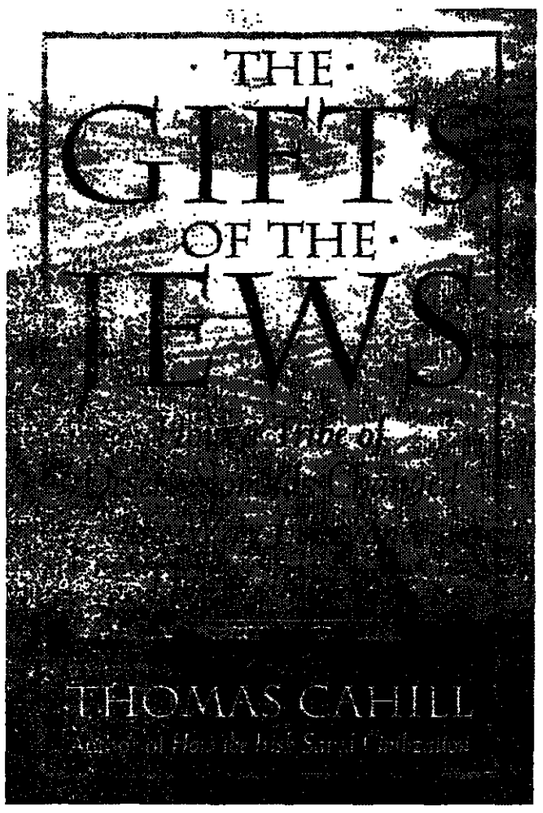
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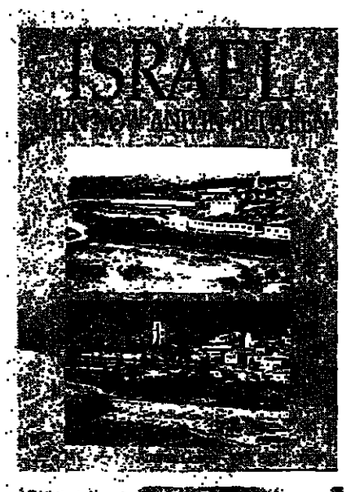
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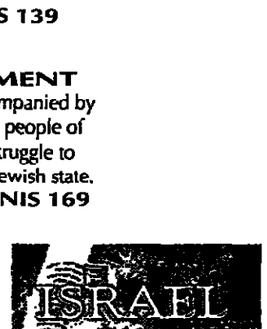
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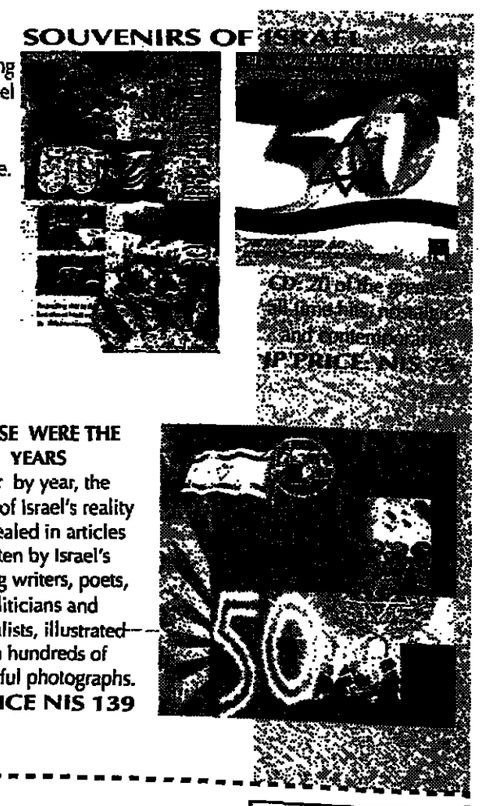
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Prime Time Dead

WASHINGTON

So you want to hear something really cheesy?

David Hasselhoff of "Baywatch" sang at a benefit in England for the late Princess of Wales. The waterlogged mid-life beach hunk performed a song in honor of Diana called "A Brand New Angel." The song had been specially written for the funeral of a character on "Baywatch," which made it special.

And you thought "Candle in the Wind" was rock bottom.

The Princess of Wales is better box office in death than most superstars are in life. It's no wonder she won't be allowed to rest in peace.

"Dateline" and MSNBC have been awash in Diana, celebrating what would have been her 37th birthday with specials like "Death of Diana: Memories and Mystery."

I have seen the footage from Shy Di to Bye Di so often now I can recite along with Jane Pauley: "A storybook beginning and a tragic ending ... No longer a naïve teen-ager, she was wise in the ways of the world ... The Royal Divorce when 'Time and Again' continues." And with Earl Spencer: "To sanctify your memory would be to miss out on the very core of your being." (Maybe that's why he didn't flinch at charging visitors $16 each to see his sister's watery grave at a distance and her memorial gift shop close up.)

To be obsessed with the lives of celebrities is bad enough. To be obsessed with the deaths of celebrities is a mass morbid pop psychosis.

Somewhere along the line, we stopped noticing that we've become a nation of voyeurs. We don't care how parasitic or ghoulish the pursuit becomes, as long as we get our fairy dust fix, or our reassurance that the rich and beautiful suffer too.

The Grim Reaper has brought Big Business to cable news networks. Emotional, glitzy memorials can double and triple ratings.

"Packaged death," says Robert Fulton of the Center for Death Education and Research in Minnesota.

After the prolonged death coverage for Diana, Michael Kennedy, Sonny Bono and Tammy Wynette boosted the ratings at CNN, MSNBC and Fox, the networks became vultures, scanning the horizon for the carrion of celebrities, planning the coverage for the Sinatra funeral as though it were the Normandy landing.

MSNBC got so giddy with Chris Farley's sudden death from a drug overdose that it made it a "Saturday Night Live" death curse extravaganza, running old interviews with John Belushi and Gilda Radner, eagerly picking up the theme again when Phil Hartman was shot to death by his wife.

The TV suits cloak their macabre greed in noble terms.

"It becomes a way of communal mourning," Howard Polskin, the CNN spokesman, told David Bauder, the Associated Press television writer, after CNN, MSNBC and Fox all carried live coverage of Barry Goldwater's funeral. "It helps with national grieving."

Why should grieving be personal anymore? In our culture, the private becomes the public, and the cameras are always at the scene.

Of course, the communitarianism of the networks is intensified by deaths that take the form of soap opera: celebrities dying in horrible accidents or country music stars with talented friends who want to perform at the memorial.

With the famous, a Fox executive explained, you can draw viewers who loved or hated them. An MSNBC spokesman told The A.P. that the memorial service for children shot and killed in May in an Oregon school cafeteria — an event that should be a cause for national grieving — did not boost ratings.

With baby boomers fixating on their mortality, the next step is inevitable. Taking a page from Court TV, some enterprising soul will start Death TV. If there are stations devoted to food, sex and weather, why not one to the way of all flesh?

DTV can cut out the middleman of the family and produce the funerals, maximizing the pathos and glamour and battening on the international distribution rights and the residuals for anniversaries.

Funeral homes, churches and estate planning lawyers will sponsor the network. It will have Thanatos pundits like Jack Kevorkian, Sherwin Nuland and Roma Downey, and a regular feature called "Deathstyles" by Martha Stewart. (A little gold leaf on a coffin goes a long way. No fish forks at shiva.)

Live by the ratings, die by the ratings.

Their Sacrifice and Our Debt

By John Eisenhower

TRAPPE, Md.

The recent identification of the "unknown soldier" of the Vietnam War has focused attention on the significance of one of America's most hallowed shrines. The remains heretofore considered "unknown" have turned out to be those of Michael J. Blassie, an Air Force officer.

That revelation has created a serious problem. So serious, in fact, that Defense Secretary William Cohen is finding it advisable to consult with both Congress and veterans' groups as to what to do next, since the chamber dedicated by President Ronald Reagan on Memorial Day 1984 may soon be empty.

Few people take issue with Secretary Cohen's decision to order a D.N.A. analysis of the remains in response to demands of Lieutenant Blassie's relatives, who were unconvinced that the remains were indeed unidentifiable. The emergence of new genetic tests made a positive identification possible. In light of that development, the rights of the family have taken precedence.

John Eisenhower is the author of "Agent of Destiny: The Life and Times of General Winfield Scott."

The problem is what to do next. Should the tomb remain empty, as some have advocated, or should another set of remains, anonymous even with the help of modern science, be found to replace those removed? Much can be said on either side of that question.

The Tomb of the Unknowns is the shrine that carries more significance for me than any other — it is more important than those monuments erected to individuals, to military organizations or to veterans in general. I have a sentimental attachment to it, for when I was a youngster growing up in Washington, only a decade after the end of World War I, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier represented to my family a spot of sacred ground. To me it remains the most revered of shrines.

> What happens when there are no Unknown Soldiers?

Its significance is staggering, going to the very core of how a democracy defends itself in a perilous world. The tomb is not a memorial to generals and admirals — they have been celebrated enough — but to the soldier, in the broadest sense, who lays his or her life on the line with every ground attack, every air mission and every sea voyage in hostile waters. Those countless men and women, the vast majority of them unsung, are the ones who make the greatest sacrifice.

Our country has been created by numerous wars, but we are not a warlike people. Our citizens would like nothing better than to stay home with their families. If required to go to war, they long for the day when they are reunited with their spouses, sons and daughters. But high-level policy makers cannot defend our nation alone; nor, for that matter, can the regular forces. Even in the Persian Gulf war, our active troops, powerful though they were, still required the assistance of numerous civilian soldiers, reservists taken from their homes, families and jobs.

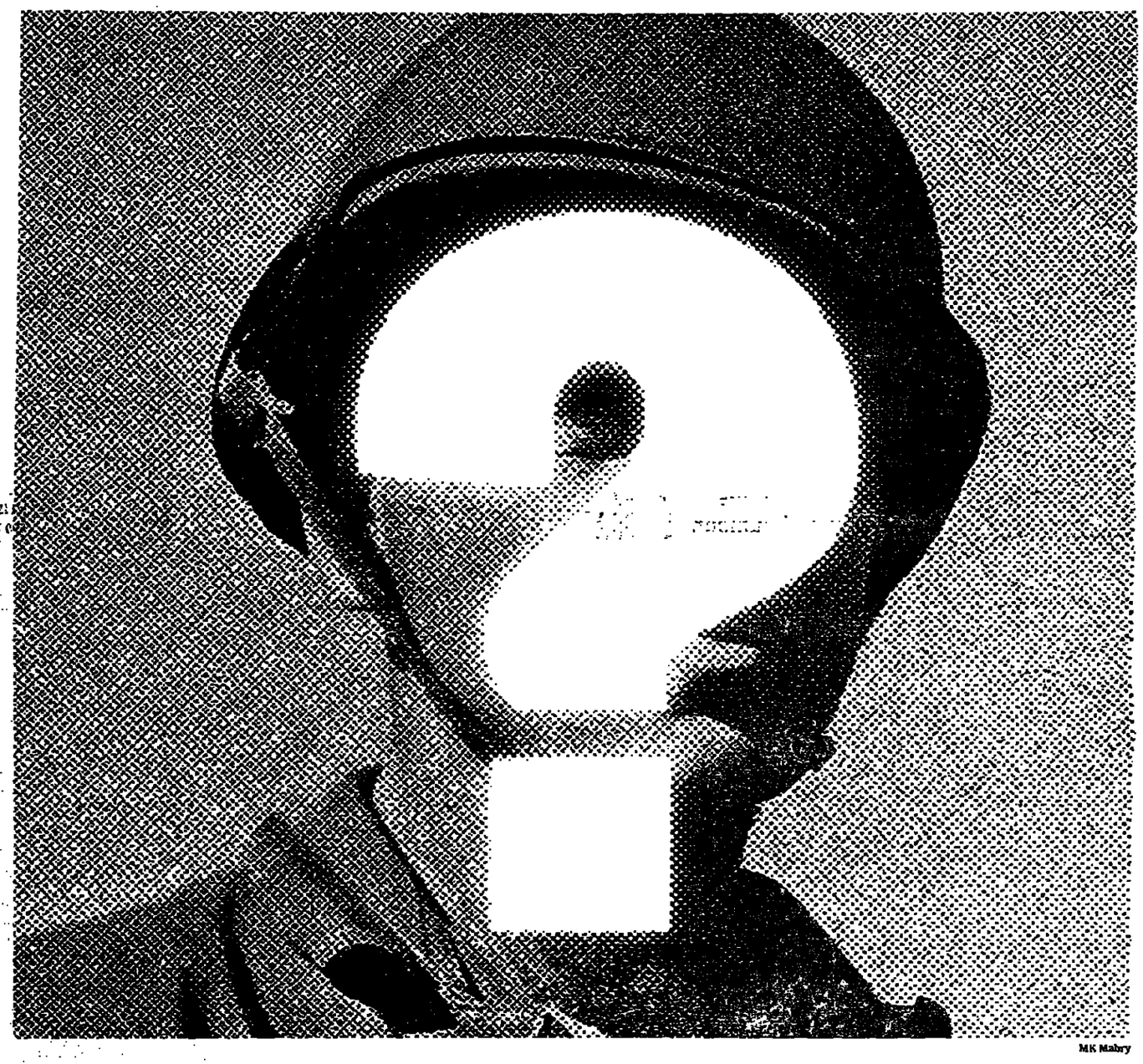
When one studies our previous conflicts, especially those in this century, one realizes what a tremendous sacrifice an individual citizen is sometimes called on to make. In the two world wars, for example, young men were often called into service, sent overseas as replacements and sent into combat with grossly inadequate training. Some were killed within months, sometimes weeks, of being inducted.

Up to 1863 such inductions were considered alien to a citizen's rights. Since then we have uncomfortably accepted them as unavoidable if a nation is to defend itself. The Tomb of the Unknowns is our inadequate tribute to those who have had to make this ultimate contribution.

Monuments to fallen soldiers drive home to us what democracy means. We can visit shrines to great leaders and be filled with respect for what those individuals stood for, but it is in places like the cemetery at Omaha Beach in Normandy that mature men, tough men, break down and cry unabashedly. They are weeping for those who have all become, in a way, unknowns.

It has been pointed out that science will soon make true unknown soldiers a thing of the past; all remains will be identifiable. That may be so. But to me it is unimportant. I, for one, would have been quite content to let the Unknown Soldier of World War I represent all our hallowed dead.

Let us hope that the occasion for a new space at the tomb will never arise again. But in the meantime, the problem being faced by the authorities is a real one, close to the hearts of the American people because it involves feelings still alive. It deserves all the intense attention it is receiving.



MK Mabry

In America

BOB HERBERT

Ending A Retail Drought

Big news: Last Tuesday a supermarket opened at the corner of Whalley Avenue and Orchard Street in New Haven.

Most Americans take supermarkets for granted. But they are rare phenomena in the chronically depressed neighborhoods of the inner cities. If you live in the ghetto and you want to shop for groceries, you will most likely pay extortionate prices for super-low quality and hardly any variety at small local stores. Or you will make your way somehow to the suburbs.

Imagine a large family with a small income, no car and little access to public transportation. I remember watching a woman in a bodega in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn ask the store owner if he had any peaches. He was reading a newspaper and never looked up. "No peach," he said.

So the 56,000-square-foot Shaw's supermarket that opened in New Haven was a huge deal. It anchors a shopping center that includes a bank branch and a video store. And it is the latest step in what appears to be a halting, tentative, wary but nevertheless very promising return of serious retail activity to such neighborhoods.

It is not happening in a vacuum. For years small neighborhood organizations, known as community development corporations, or C.D.C.'s, have been building or renovating housing that can be afforded by families of very modest means. This new housing has been a stabilizing influence in inner-city neighborhoods across the country, a defense against onrushing blight.

As the neighborhoods stabilize, new families are drawn to them, creating a viable potential market in areas that previously were economically moribund.

> Seeing the inner city's potential.

"The obvious next step is to take a look at where the families are going to shop," said P. Jefferson Armistead, a vice president with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (L.I.S.C.), a national organization that helps arrange funding and provides expert assistance to C.D.C.'s.

"The C.D.C.'s," said Mr. Armistead, "have set the stage for this additional phase of retail development."

This entire scenario is being played out with excruciating slowness. But there is reason to believe not only that it is working, but that in the current economic atmosphere, it will accelerate. There is serious money to be made in neighborhoods that once were viewed only as economic wastelands. As Mr. Armistead noted, the per capita income in such neighborhoods is low, but because of the population densities the income "per acre" can be very high.

"We are seeing some recognition on the part of big retail stores that there are substantial opportunities here," he said.

A Pathmark supermarket that opened in Newark's Central Ward in 1990 is one of the most successful in the entire Pathmark chain. It was the first supermarket built in the Central Ward since it was devastated by rioting in 1967.

Large-scale retail projects further stabilize a neighborhood, and they provide substantial employment opportunities. Each new supermarket represents 250 to 300 new jobs.

In the past few years shopping centers anchored by supermarkets have been built or are being built in South Central Los Angeles, on the South Side of Chicago, in Philadelphia and in Harlem. Several others are planned. In each case the projects have been developed in partnerships with C.D.C.'s.

The New Haven project was a $15 million venture sponsored by the Greater Dwight Development Corporation, which operates in the neighborhoods of Dwight, Edgewood and West River. An L.I.S.C. subsidiary is a supporter of the project, and the GE Capital Corporation is an investor.

Each attempt to build large-scale retail outlets in inner-city neighborhoods is a struggle. Private companies are still reluctant to make the initial investment and security continues to be a problem.

But the C.D.C.'s and intermediary organizations like L.I.S.C. have completed several successful projects and many more are planned. Each successful project is a magnet for others.

"This is not the whole economic answer," said Paul Grogan, the president of L.I.S.C. "But this return of the retail market represents a reconnection of these communities with the mainstream economy, and that hasn't been there for a long time. It's a very hopeful sign. It's something to build on."

'Soft Money' Is Bad Business

By Jerome Kohlberg

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y.

Two weeks ago I was among a dozen business leaders who met with members of Congress in Washington to highlight our commitment to campaign finance reform. We let them know that the "soft money" system — substantial, unregulated contributions to political parties — is bankrupting our democracy. And we urged them to look beyond the short-term interests of their political parties or their Congressional leadership and do what's right for the country.

As Warren Buffett noted in our meeting, from a strictly business point of view access is an underpriced commodity in the political marketplace. Even what we think of as large soft-money contributions are a small price for big corporations to pay to gain political influence. Unlike those individuals who make large contributions for ideological reasons, corporations give for one reason: self-interest. They can easily justify their expenditures because they get an outstanding return on their investments.

But as bad as the current soft-money donations are, they're just the tip of the iceberg. The price for access is rising rapidly. The result will be an increasingly loud voice for big-money-eyed interests, an increasingly alienated electorate and an increasingly fragile democracy.

Jerome Kohlberg was a founding partner of the investment firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Company.

In the next month, the House of Representatives will have a rare opportunity to restore some balance to our system of campaign contributions. If it does not, access will soon become the privilege of only the Fortune 500 or the Fortune 50 or, worse yet, the Fortune 5.

It's no wonder that business is seen as part of the campaign finance problem. Critics point to the tens of millions contributed by corporate donors in the last election cycle and to the geometric growth of corporate soft-money contributions, and label business an "enemy." But such a surface analysis begs the more important issue: do all businesses and business leaders embrace the current system? The answer is no.

> C.E.O.'s must stand up for a bill to reform campaign fund-raising.

Many corporations don't participate in the giving game at all, even through the establishment of political action committees. The overwhelming majority of companies and corporations don't give soft money. And, as a recent study supported by the Joyce Foundation found, contributors are highly critical of the implied quid pro quo nature of the system, where donors feel pressured by officeholders to make contributions.

But I and other business leaders have found that officeholders also dislike the system. They resent having to spend significant amounts of time raising campaign money, and they feel uncomfortable having contributors pressure them for favors and for access to Government.

In short, both the business leaders and many of the politicians we talk to are increasingly frustrated with and disgusted by a cash race gone out of control. Even as they participate, they feel that the system has become an industry unto itself, caught in a perpetual cycle that increasingly undermines both democracy and genuine business interests.

But the business leaders who joined me in Washington are doing more than voicing their opinions; they are acting on them to become part of the solution. More than 35 of us joined to form the Business Advisory Council of the Campaign Reform Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to changing campaign financing. We are working to shatter the myth that business is interested only in perpetuating the system. We are involving other business leaders by explaining that the rapidly rising cost of access may soon price them out of the political marketplace.

As we all know, there is influence in money. If money speaks the language of reform rather than the language of access, it can prompt the action that its current influence is blocking. A few weeks ago, 254 courageous members of the House — with each party well represented — stood up for reform in a crucial vote.

Their action sustained the strongest reform bill being considered by the House, the Shays-Meehan legislation. Over the next several weeks, House members will have to hold their leadership to its commitment to bring the measure to a vote before the August recess and to insure that Shays-Meehan becomes the bill of record that is sent to the Senate for consideration.

Government is not a commodity like cattle or oil. It is urgent that the House remember the public purpose of Government and restore some dignity to democracy by casting a vote in favor of real campaign finance reform.

Note to Readers

The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it. If manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks. For further information, call (212) 556-1831.

THE ARTS

Keepers of a Flame That Once Burned for Russia

By NANCY RAMSEY

Moscow

IT is one of the most unforgettable sequences in film history: As the Czar's soldiers try to crush a sailors' rebellion in the seaport city of Odessa in prerevolutionary Russia, a young mother pushing a baby carriage tries to flee and is shot. As she collapses, she loses her grip on the carriage and it rolls down flights of stairs leading to the sea. Step by step, frame by terrifying frame, the camera follows the carriage as it picks up speed amid jackbooted soldiers, slain men and frantic women and children.

The Odessa steps sequence, using quick-cutting montage — striking images edited together to produce a powerful reaction in the audience — has inspired directors, cinematographers and editors since the great Russian director Sergei Eisenstein filmed it for his 1925 silent-movie classic "Battleship Potemkin." Brian De Palma paid homage to the scene when he recreated it for his 1987 movie "The Untouchables." But while Mr. De Palma added a last-second rescue at the foot of the stairs, "Potemkin's" baby was not so fortunate: as the carriage was about to tip over, Eisenstein cut to an onlooker open-mouthed in horror.

The sequence is just one of many Eisenstein hallmarks. In his movies, both silent and later with sound, figures often loom large in the background, drawing the audience into the space of the film; faces are often cut off at the forehead, forcing the audience to focus on eyes; angles play off one another as boldly as if a Constructivist painting had come to life; crowd scenes in which good and evil clash are choreographed in grand operatic tradition and accentuated by music.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Eisenstein's birth in Riga, and the centenary is being celebrated in retrospectives in New York (the Museum of Modern Art), Berlin, Oxford, Jerusalem, Istanbul, Calcutta and Rio de Janeiro. And no one is more sought after in this swirl of events than Naum Kleiman, the director of the Film Museum in Moscow, a catch-as-catch-can sort of place founded in 1986 that houses 400,000 items salvaged from the tumult of Russian film history.

When he is not running the museum (closed for the summer for lack of funds) or visiting studios that are shutting down ("What is it you call it in the West?" he said. "A fire sale?"), Mr. Kleiman is passionately involved in the life and works of Eisenstein — archiving, annotating, studying, and restoring the director's films, writings and sketches. Just recently he wrote the script for a documentary on Eisenstein, made with Russian and German backing, called "Prophet." (In Russia, artists have traditionally been revered as secular prophets, leading the nation through perilous times.)

Mr. Kleiman never met Eisenstein, but while he was a student in the late 1950's at the All Union State Institute of Cinematography in Moscow, a professor introduced him to Eisenstein's widow, Pera Attasheva (a marriage more of partnership than of passion; it is now believed that Eisenstein was, if not homosexual, at least bisexual). When Mr. Kleiman first met Ms. Attasheva, she told him that she was almost blind and would need someone to sort through her husband's papers and belongings: could he possibly help?

"People ask me how I can stay with Eisenstein for 40 years: 'Doesn't it get boring?' " Mr. Kleiman said on a warm May afternoon at the end of a holiday commemorating the Soviet victory in World War II. "Not at all, I tell them. He provokes you. He's always asking, not just answering. Now I'm studying opera; did you know that in 1940 Eisenstein directed Wagner's 'Walküre' at the Bolshoi Theater?"

While this particular holiday finds many Muscovites at their dachas planting summer vegetables, Mr. Kleiman, who looks like a cross between Alec Guinness and Albert Einstein, is at the "Eisenstein apartment," as it is known to scholars — a two-room flat on the third floor of a large, nondescript yellow brick building in the center of Moscow, not far from the museum. Although Eisenstein never lived there, the apartment, maintained by the state, is where many of his personal belongings are kept (his voluminous papers and drawings are in the state archives). Taking a break from reading Eisenstein's handwritten notes preserved on microfilm, Mr. Kleiman invited a visitor to look around. On the walls were signed photographs of the director with Harpo Marx ("To Sergei Eisenstein, who started the ball a-rolling"), Charlie Chaplin and Walt Disney; masks from Africa, Bali and China (places he never visited), and boldly colored carpets that Eisenstein brought back from a trip to Mexico.

Museums worldwide are celebrating the centennial year of the director Sergei Eisenstein.

"In 1929 Stalin invited Eisenstein to the Kremlin and gave him permission to go abroad," Mr. Kleiman said. That year, Eisenstein left on a trip for Western Europe, the United States and Mexico. "I think Stalin really wanted Eisenstein to be his biographer," Mr. Kleiman said. "He wanted glorification from Eisenstein, but Eisenstein would never grant it. I think Eisenstein is often misunderstood; people connect him to Bolshevik ideology, but he was not a Stalinist. He was an idealist, dancing only on the border of officialdom."

While many of his films (he made nine) extol the virtues of the Bolshevik revolution — happy farm workers deliriously discover a new cream separator in "The General Line"; evil, fat capitalists chomp on cigars while workers are mistreated in "Strike" — Eisenstein's relationship to the Soviet regime was complicated and uneasy. At the 1935 All Union Congress of Soviet Film Workers, for instance, Eisenstein spoke not about the glories of Soviet society, as he was expected to do, but about the inner monologues of James Joyce, prelogical thought among "so-called primitive peoples" and the enduring myths of humanity. Throughout the 1930's, when it was no longer permissible to take the artistic chances that were still possible in the revolutionary fervor of the early 1920's, Eisenstein continued to push the boundaries of what was allowed.



Culver Pictures

The director Sergei Eisenstein.

"Bezhin Meadow," for example, begun in 1935, was, as the authorities saw it, meant to glorify a boy who was allegedly murdered for reporting his own father to the authorities. Eisenstein, however, elevated the tale to the level of Greek tragedy. As a result, the film was not released — it was destroyed, in fact — and Eisenstein wrote an apology for what he described as his "individualistic illusion." (Thirty years later, Mr. Kleiman took the script and some 700 individual frames out of 1,200 that Eisenstein had asked his editor to save and shaped the material into a film, which will be shown at the Museum of Modern Art in the fall.)

Not long after apologizing to the authorities, Eisenstein wrote to Stalin requesting permission to make another film, and the Film Ministry presented him with a choice of historical figures. Eisenstein chose Alexander Nevsky, a 13th-century hero who defended Russia against invading Teutonic knights. Choosing a figure that was so far in the past, about whom less was known, would allow him more artistic freedom, Eisenstein reasoned. The authorities, in turn, hoped it would stir up anti-German sentiment.

Eisenstein worked on the film with the composer Sergei Prokofiev, and together they completed "Alexander Nevsky" five months ahead of schedule. But for all Eisenstein's efforts to retain some degree of independence on the project — as on others, like his monumental two-part "Ivan the Terrible" — the film was still seen by some members of the intelligentsia as a form of collaboration with the Soviet regime.

Maya Turovskaya, a leading film critic in Russia today, remembers the film's release, in 1938. "Little boys in Moscow courtyards played Alexander Nevsky," Ms. Turovskaya recalled. "I was a teen-ager at the time, and the film, although beautiful, struck me as too nationalistic. My mother read Freud, my father read the classics; we followed the Spanish Civil War; we were internationalists. My father had been imprisoned, and at least half the children in my class had missing fathers. We were children of the Great Terror.

"For Eisenstein, for the avant-garde of that generation, the revolution was not the killing of peasants; it was a revolution of spirit, of conscience. But our reality was very different. I had an uncle, Iosif Shpinel, who worked as a set designer on 'Ivan the Terrible,' and we would have great discussions at the table: 'How can you glorify Ivan?' I asked. 'Silly girl, I'm working with the great Eisenstein,' he answered. Everyone who worked with Eisenstein said that. My uncle's concerns were not with politics but with matters like how tall Ivan was versus how high to make the arch. Of course, we hadn't seen 'Ivan Two'; we had heard about it, but it wasn't released until five years after Stalin's death."

The first part of "Ivan the Terrible" justified and glorified the 16th-century leader's reign of terror; it won the highest prize the state could bestow, the Stalin Prize, after its release in 1945. The second part, however, showed Ivan's descent into madness; completed in 1946, it was not released until 1958. That summer, Mr. Kleiman saw it for the first time.

"I recognized immediately that it was an explanation of Stalinism," Mr. Kleiman recalled, his eyes lighting up as if the film were unwinding before him at that moment. "It was the story of my own childhood. Eisenstein was trying to explain an autocratic figure in an esthetic way, not a simple, vulgar, Marxist explanation."

Returning to the film institute that fall, Mr. Kleiman wanted only to study how "Ivan," Part 2, was made. But studying Eisenstein, he would learn, was not only a matter of examining his cinema techniques. "Eisenstein made it possible to discover lots of people: Jean Renoir, John Ford, Orson Welles, Satyajit Ray," he said. "He was in dialogue with them. He also connected us to Peking opera, Kabuki theater, Melville, Freud, James Joyce, Greek art. Everything. It was through Eisenstein that we discovered the world."

During the years when contact with the West was restricted, the intelligentsia often turned to people like Eisenstein to bring them news of the outside world — through word of mouth, through writings, through books and works of art. It was a world Eisenstein eagerly shared with his students at Moscow's film institute. The director Mikhail Shveitser studied with him in the 1940's and was often invited to his home. Eisenstein, he said, "would direct me to look through his books on fine art and talk to me about literature, art, cinema — never cinema art alone."

Mr. Shveitser, now white-haired and spry, studied with Eisenstein during the war, when the state-run studio Mosfilm was evacuated to the city of Alma-Ata in Kazakhstan. "When we first arrived in Alma-Ata, Sergei Mikhailovich was shooting 'Ivan,' " he said, using the Russian form of address. "He was living in a crowded communal home, and we went to visit him. We came in from the cold and found a place for ourselves to stand so as not to make a puddle but to still enjoy the warmth. 'Sergei Mikhailovich, how warm it is!' we said. 'It's not the warmth, it's the communal flatulence,' he answered. That showed us his good humor, how he accepted all the trouble. We saw the horrors of war all around us — poverty, famine. Sergei Mikhailovich told us, 'I understand your hearts are burning to make films about the war,' but he directed us to create scenes from Tolstoy. 'I want to teach you how to construct a palace,' he told us, 'even if for the rest of your lives you have to build toilets for country houses.' "

Mr. Shveitser says he remembers well the night, years later, when Eisenstein died. "I was shooting a film in Moscow, a crowd scene," he said. "There was so much tension that people had started giggling. Someone came down the hall and announced that he had died, and the laughter, of course, stopped. I went to my home, which faced Sergei Mikhailovich's. I felt such great sadness, and I looked out at his windows, and one by one someone started switching on all the lights. In my mind, I imagined that all of Moscow, the whole world, was lighting up at that moment."

Eisenstein died of a heart attack in February 1948, shortly after his 50th birthday. "I think he knew that once he made the second part of 'Ivan' he would never be allowed to make another film," said Mr. Kleiman. "His wife said to him, 'Old man, what are you doing? Are you crazy?' "

Not long before he died Eisenstein confided to a close friend that he feared he might soon be singled out by Stalin for execution. "He couldn't make any films, so he wrote and wrote and wrote — addressing all questions, all problems, of cinema and art," Mr. Kleiman said. "Did you know that he loved animation? With animation, every moment can be transformed. What a great metaphor for Eisenstein: if you are in a cell, you are dreaming of transformation."



Photofest

A frame from Sergei Eisenstein's 1925 film "Battleship Potemkin" — A Constructivist painting come to life.

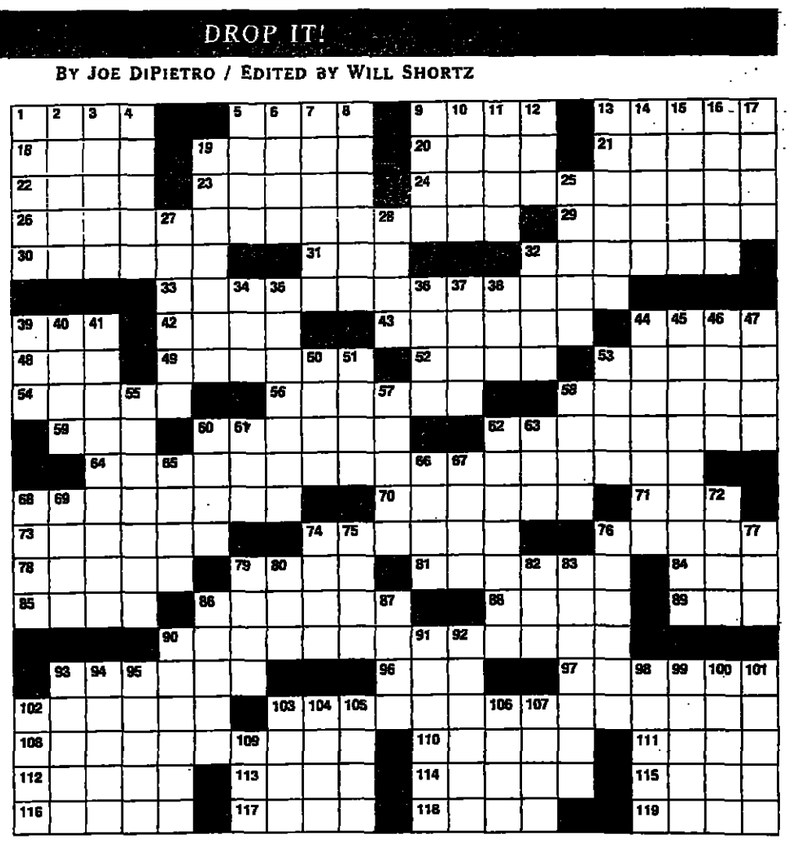


James Hill for the New York Times

Naum Kleiman, an Eisenstein scholar and the director of the Film Museum in Moscow, with archive film cans.

DROP IT!

BY JOE DIPIETRO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ



ACROSS

1 Spot on a cliff
5 Pound (down)
9 First baseball player to make $1 million a year
13 Big splash
18 "Thérèse Raquin" novelist
19 Girl in a #1 Everly Brothers hit
20 Part of a meter
21 Ruth's mother-in-law
22 Turning points
23 Critic Judith
24 Genius?
26 Beige shirt with khaki pants?
29 "Bulworth" star
30 "Yo!"
31 Grp. in peace accords
32 Person of high position
33 A new twist?
39 Toshiba competitor
42 "The Last Time I Saw Paris" composer
43 Wagner heroine
44 Twist
48 Solely
49 Job for a seamstress
52 Part of a plane
53 Partner of Brahma and Vishnu
54 Rather soft
56 Like many a castle
58 Not just given
59 Farm sound
60 Calmer
62 Kilmer communicates with the deaf?
64 Headline trumpeting a new wedding veil?
68 Hairdo for the office?
70 "Phantom Lady" actress, 1944
71 Far East carrier, for short
73 Black Sea locale
74 Challenging reply
76 Answers
78 "Seven" or "10," e.g.
79 Qatar's capital
81 Took steps
84 "Here —— Again" (1987 #1 hit)
85 Writer Harte
86 St. ——, Switzerland
88 Agape
89 Journal unit
90 Ex-hoopster Dave, after he went to Washington?
93 His name's an anagram of "gaoler"
96 Calendar abbr.
97 Supply boat
102 Split
103 Places where graft is most common?
108 Case for Ace Ventura?
110 Having fine threads
111 The Miners of the N.C.A.A.
112 Kind of bit
113 Cutlass, e.g.
114 Great interest
115 Repeated cry in a children's argument
116 Obdurate
117 Word after who or what
118 Gamepieces
119 Certain constellation star

DOWN

1 Bohemian, e.g.
2 "Good Times" star, in 70's TV
3 Calm
4 Needing a pat on the back, say
5 Gang's domain
6 —— were
7 Like a golf ball in the rough
8 Czar of 1682-1725
9 European capital
10 Fabrication
11 Home of the Cyclones
12 TV's "The —— Today"
13 Sportscaster Dick
14 Stone size
15 Hesitant
16 Concord
17 Baby
19 Absolutely clean
25 Hearty entree
27 Goal-oriented activity
28 Rikki-tikki——
32 Plate ump's call
34 A little work
35 Belief that all natural objects have souls
36 Lord's worker
37 A three or a five, for instance
38 Literary inits.
39 Sound at the door
40 37-Down, e.g.
41 How "Lili Marlene" is played
44 Laughs hysterically
45 Psalms writer
46 Still
47 Rolls
50 "Take two" was his motto
51 Receipts
53 Disrespect
55 Sits, slangily
57 Sad
58 Tigers foe
60 Concert sites
61 Each
62 Of the belly
63 Ancient greeting
65 —— dixit
66 Dapper ones
67 Funny one
68 Starting point
69 Lilac, e.g.
72 Tour grp.
74 Shred
75 Owns, once
76 Kind of sale
77 Sauce ingredient
79 Ready to come out of the oven
80 Ending of many Web site names
82 One who stays up late
83 Make some fast food
86 1993 A.F.C. Rookie of the Year Rick
87 Bite, so to speak
90 Flaubert creation
91 Strengthen
92 Revolt
93 Eskimo—— (language group)
94 Discharge
95 Ancient Greek physician
98 Leftover
99 Woman of "Today"
100 It happens
101 Aggressive
102 Workers in columns
103 Battery
104 Tips
105 A bell ringer closes it: Abbr.
106 Wallop
107 Wherry equipment
109 Runner Sebastian

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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(Left) Contract at war's end: After living disguised for two years, he defected to the US; (right) The famous 1945 Potsdam conference photo, with Stalin, left, and Churchill flanking Truman – and Contract clearly visible over Truman's shoulder. (AP)

The rabbi's son at Stalin's side

The story of Alexander Contract would be almost beyond belief were it not for the photographs that back it up. Thomas O'Dwyer interviewed the Jew who became Stalin's trusted bodyguard and food taster



Contract, 76, today, wearing the signet ring Menachem Begin gave him on his left hand. (Jonathan Bloom)

He was the son of a rabbi, a protege of Nikita Khruschev, a bodyguard to Stalin – and he saved the life of Menachem Begin.

Alexander Contract's life story seems scarcely believable: Is this man living history, or just a legend in his own lunchtime?

Yet there on the front of his well-received 1991 book, *The Back Room*, is that famous picture of the jolly trio from the World War II Potsdam conference – Josef Stalin on the left, Harry Truman in the center, Winston Churchill on the right. Clearly visible over Truman's right shoulder is the young Jew, Alexander Contract. There are many other photographs, press cuttings, pictures of him in a Russian captain's uniform with his 12 decorations, or with young KGB colleagues.

The spry and soft-spoken 76-year-old widower, now a wealthy and prominent fund-raiser for the Israel Museum, is easily recognizable from the photographs, even if the hair has thinned and the handsome features have aged.

Contract wears on his left hand a chunky gold signet ring with the emblem of the State of Israel set in blue enamel – a personal gift from Begin, whom he rescued from Siberia.

Starting at the beginning, wasn't it a little unusual for a young Ukrainian Jew to volunteer for the NKVD (forerunner of the KGB) in 1939, as Contract did?

"Normally they didn't take them in," agreed Contract in an interview by the Tel Aviv Sheraton pool. "Them" was "their" definition of Jews, he added.

"I was active in sports, football playing and swimming... My mama and papa had seven boys and three girls – I had to get out of the back yard in Kovel." As it turned out, getting "out of the back yard" saved Contract's life – all his immediate family were murdered by the Nazis.

When Communist Party dignitaries came to visit the region, Contract was one of a group of young athletes chosen to give a display. As he waited to start a swimming race, he noticed a huge metal flagpole leaning precariously over the VIPs.

"I was a kid, so without hesitation I dived in, swam over, grabbed the flag and pulled everything into the water as it toppled. They realized the flagpole would have fallen on the dignitaries' benches."

These included Khruschev, the district commissar, and Lazar Kaganovich, the only Jew in Stalin's circle, then transportation commissar.

"I didn't become a young hero of the Soviet Union – but I became a young hero of Khruschev," Contract said.

Khruschev asked the boy if there was any favor he could do him, and the young swimmer promptly asked for an interview in the commissar's office.

"I waited at his office next day. He came and gave me a bear hug and said, 'Come on in, and let's see what I can do for you.'

"I said: 'I would like to join as a member of the NKVD.'

"Khruschev was taken aback by the hutzpa, but then grinned and roared, 'Sure! Why not? But first you have to go to school.'"

So Contract spent three days a week "learning how to handle a gun and keep my mouth shut.

"When I came home and told Papa about it, all he said was, 'Don't ever wear NKVD uniform into this house.'"

One day Khruschev summoned Contract and said he was going to assign him to the railroad as an undercover agent. "Spy on the commissars, and report to me."

There were really three different communist parties at the time, Contract said, in the railroads, the city and the army. "Each vied for privileges and position. Since Khruschev was the city, he wanted to make sure the railroad people didn't railroad him." Kaganovich was railroad commissar.

Soon Contract could tell Khruschev: "They've hired me, and they'll pay me every two weeks. He said, 'That's fine; I'll pay you every two weeks as well.' For a young lad, it was a hell of a lot of money."

'I was shaking... I said, "General Stalin, my father is a rabbi. For two and a half years I attended a theological seminary." So did he – his mother wanted him to be a priest'

When Germany invaded and Russia was dragged into the war, Contract – then known as Sasha Kontractov – accompanied Khruschev to Stalingrad.

"The Soviets had three lines of defense, starting with the penal corps (from labor camps and jails), which went to the front as cannon fodder. Second was the Red Army, and third the KGB. I was KGB, with Khruschev.

"Deserters got shot, so you had a choice – get shot by the Germans or get shot by your own."

By 1942 Contract had been wounded badly a second time and was in a hospital in the Urals, where Khruschev came to visit him.

When doctors told Khruschev the boy would be six months recuperating, he asked him if there was anything he could do. Contract asked for another favor – to tell Comrade Stalin that he wanted to man the perimeter watchtower so the soldier there could be freed for the front.

Khruschev, impressed by this patriotic gesture, brought up Contract's case with Stalin.

"A week later he saw Stalin, and told him he had 'this Jewboy' (Stalin told me the story late one night, after heavy drinking). 'The boy speaks eight languages, he's very faithful and trustworthy.'

"And then," said Contract, "he added stupidly, 'He is willing to die for our country.' I wasn't, but Khruschev said it, so Stalin said, 'Bring him!'

"Stalin interviewed me. I was shaking, but I decided to be straight. I said, 'General Stalin, my father is a rabbi, for two and a half years I attended a theological seminary.' So did he – we had this in common: His mother wanted him to be a priest.

"Later," Contract said, "we used to talk about it at night, and even discuss philosophy."

In the Kremlin and close to his own quarters was where Stalin kept his secret "backroom boys," whom Contract now joined. Stalin made Contract wear a crucifix to protect him from suspicion of being a Jew and introduced him to the other boys as Sasha. Only single names were used; no one knew if they were real.

These boys were Stalin's eyes and ears, flitting silently through the night, gathering information for him and protecting him.

"Stalin was more intelligent, but also a great deal shrewder than Khruschev," said Contract. "Khruschev was stupid, he killed more people, a lot more.

"I started with Stalin in 1942, so I really don't know about the 1930s. I know Stalin eliminated top officials he feared might be a threat. That's why he hired kids like us – I was one of 19 in the back room – not just as bodyguards but as food tasters, spies against commissars, spies against foreign dignitaries, always bringing him the information. Paranoia was a way of life in Russia."

Contract says he became one of Stalin's trustees "maybe because I was a little smaller than the other boys, maybe because among all the other nationalities in the back room I was different. There were Hungarians, Poles, Central Asians and other Asiatics – he admired Jewish talent, I think."

But as food taster, could he not have been poisoned?

"Oh yes," said Contract. "Life was cheap then in Stalin's Soviet Union. A boy dies? Get another."

A boy did indeed die on a recreational trip to Sochi on Stalin's train when someone poisoned the dictator's pork. (Stalin had excused Contract from tasting pork, his favorite meal.)

"[Lavrentii] Beria [later minister of interior] was in charge of security. He had the six cooks lined up, shot and thrown off the train," Contract said, adding that that was when he became a cook.

"I knew only how to make a cheese blintz and a potato latke from my mother. Stalin said, 'Should I wait 20 minutes after you've tasted them?' I said 'What for? I made them – do you think I want to kill myself?'"

Stalin got to like blintzes, Contract recalled, and later had his cook in the Kremlin make them.

MENACHEM Begin, how did he come into this saga?

"Begin was in labor camp in Siberia. After the Germans and Russians divided Poland east and west, many Poles fled into Russia.

"When the Soviets were rounding up refugee Polish officers before the Katyn Forest massacre, I was with Khruschev," said Contract. "He ordered me to sit in the car because I was too young to watch when he ordered the NKVD to shoot them."

Contract claims the true story didn't leak for two years, by which time "I was with Stalin already."

Nazis in Ukraine told the Swiss Red Cross that Russian Communists had murdered many Polish officers there. Learning from Contract that Khruschev and the Kiev NKVD chief had ordered the shootings, Stalin summoned Khruschev from Stalingrad to confirm it. His war ally Churchill was giving him a hard time about the Polish officers he wanted brought to Britain to join their comrades [in the First Corps of the Polish army in exile, which fought with the British].

"Stalin said to me, 'You have nothing special to do. Take two men, go to the labor camps in the Urals and Siberia and find me any Polish officers you can.' The NKVD gave me a list of likely names.

"When I walked into one of the camps in Siberia, I realized from the list that there were four Jews there. Begin was on a list as a possible – but I knew he wasn't a Polish officer because Jews could only be enlisted men before the war.

"I went up to Begin, and shouted: 'You, Menachem Begin! Straighten up like a Polish officer when a Soviet officer addresses you!' I really yelled at him. Then I shouted – at the other three Jews too – 'Move over there with your officer colleagues.' Begin was really beaten down and hunched up.

"Our job was to take any Poles to Central Asia. Begin was with the group we took to Ashgabat in the Turkmen republic – 184 or 185 in all, including half a dozen Jews I had managed to slip into the group.

"When we got the order, we took them across the border to Teheran, where they were handed over to the British embassy.

"But Begin disappeared. The next I heard, he was making trouble in Palestine. It was a few years later, and I was already in Germany on the way out" – for Contract had decided to defect.

AFTER the war, Stalin appointed him as a junior prosecutor to be "my eyes and ears at Nuremberg," says Contract. As his ticket to the US, he smuggled out top-secret information from Stalin's desk, warning the American president that the Soviets were planning to double-cross their former allies and, under the guise of liberation, divide Japan in exactly the same way as Germany.

After kicking his heels in disguise for two years, Contract left on a ship from Bremerhaven as two agents of Stalin tried to seize him at the gangplank. They were shot in the legs by US military police and hauled away.

Contract, aged 24, settled into obscurity running a small dry-cleaning business as an immigrant in New York – sworn to secrecy for 25 years by the US president, as part of his escape deal.

"In 1954, when I first came to Israel, I told my wife: 'I'm going to see that Begin.' He recognized me right away. He said, 'If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be alive. Why did you pick me?'

"I said 'There were four or five Jews in that camp who didn't belong there. They had committed no crime, and they were Polish-born.'

"Begin told me, 'We must make an article in the papers,' but I said I had an agreement with the Americans to be quiet for 25 years, so as not to embarrass the World War II leaders. (A movie is currently under consideration, based on Contract's book).

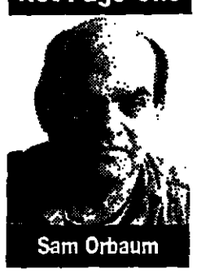
"He gave me a tie-pin, and cuff links and this ring, and a *tallit* with a silver collar. When he became prime minister he invited my wife and I to lunch in the Knesset. He invited us to Camp David to meet President Carter.

Stalin's former KGB henchman gazed out over the Tel Aviv seashore, turning Begin's ring on his finger.

"When he died, I had a serious operation and could not come... I had the utmost respect for him, although many Jews in America despised him."

Dances with dolphins

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

Ran Weiss had his bar mitzva in November. He is a man now, but as pure and simple as the day he was born. Ran is severely autistic.

His father Shlomo is a tower of sensitive strength for his five children on Masuot Yitzhak, a religious moshav near Ashkelon.

This is their story.

"Ran does not speak at all. His condition is very extreme. He's completely lost in himself. He likes to be alone and doesn't play with others, not even with his family. He goes to a special school for autistics at Kibbutz Hulda, learning to take care of himself, feed himself – simple tasks.

"He is a sweet, nice boy."

MAMA DADA RAN

"When Ran was about six or seven, someone on our moshav showed us a story in *The Jerusalem Post* about therapy for children like Ran, using dolphins in Eilat. It interested us because Ran loves water, he's a born swimmer, and we wanted to see if this could be a good environment for him.

"We thought maybe he could make contact with something, anything – human or animal, it didn't matter. We hoped the dolphins might encourage an interest in human relationships.

"We called Maya at Dolphin Reef about half a year after it opened, and they accepted him for the program; in fact, he was the first one in it.

"It was made clear to us from the beginning that dolphin therapy is not a cure. Ran cannot be cured. This is just a way to give children like Ran some excitement.

"But there was an effect. One time I was lying on the beach and Ran came to us after being with the dolphins, and he came to sit with me, excited. He looked me in the eyes, he looked at me for a full minute. It was the first eye contact we'd ever had.

"And then, another time, Ran left the dolphins and came to me, and he hugged me. He hugged me. I can't tell you...."

DADA FISH RAN MAMA

"It's the dolphins who seek contact, not Ran. He swims, they swim around him. We don't really know how it affects him, but the dolphins seem to relate to him as someone special, more so than with 'strangers.' Yes, I think they recognize Ran.

"At first, there was one especially wonderful dolphin, Hindu. Most of the dolphins come from Russia, but this one was from Japan, and it had a social problem with the others. To our great grief, Hindu died after about a year and a half.

"In recent years Domino is the special one. I remember one time, Ran was swimming alone, and Domino came up to him and they started playing a game together, for 10 minutes, just the two of them. It was remarkable!

"But it doesn't always click. Sometimes he goes in and doesn't want to play with the dolphins. Sometimes they have their own things to do – like after three baby dolphins were born, they were preoccupied with that."

RAN MAMA

"We used to go there two or three times a year, until 1994, when my wife committed suicide.

"Malka had a great love of life, she was so sociable, and a successful lawyer; she was 42. She was the last person you'd think would kill herself. We don't really know why...."

MAMA MAMA MAMA

"Clearly he felt something. He cried. His behavior was a bit different. We told him Mommy wasn't coming back.

"When Ran was coming of age, I wondered what we should do to celebrate his bar mitzva. Some people said we should do nothing, just let it pass. Then I thought, if we're going to do something, it should be with the dolphins.

"I went to Maya at Dolphin Reef, and she was thrilled by the idea. I got a lot of support from people. I thought it could also be a good opportunity to do something for all the autistic children of Israel, and felt the TV people should be there – but Dolphin Reef insisted it should be a private celebration. They turned down a chance at great publicity for themselves, because they're sensitive, they didn't want a media circus. Later on, though, we did go on TV.

"The bar mitzva was amazing. We really didn't know what to do, but Dolphin Reef took care of everything – it was done entirely through donations, with Holiday Inn and the Dan Hotels providing excellent catering. We had about 130 guests.

"You have to remember, Dolphin Reef is a profit-making enterprise. But they go far beyond that. Their entire therapy program is sometimes at the expense of profits. For instance, Ran might be in the water, and the dolphins will come to him instead of others who paid a lot of money to swim with them.

"Generally religious people don't go to that beach because of nude sunbathing, so the bar mitzva was a good chance for them to see Dolphin Reef. We wanted our family and friends to see Ran's special life there.

"We got there in the morning and found the place full of flowers and balloons and decorations – even on the dolphin platform and the boat – and I became emotional. There were tears in my eyes; I couldn't speak. They did all this for us, everything free.

"The bar mitzva was very, very special for us. Our rabbi spoke and blessed Ran, and Maya read a letter that Ran's mother wrote to the Reef after our first visit there.

"If only Ran understood...."

RAN DADA

Shlomo Weiss and 13 other families with autistic children are trying to build a private hostel in Rishon Lezion that will tend to their children for the duration of their lives. Their non-profit group, Eyal, is seeking public help through donations. Checks may be made out in the name of Shlomo Weiss and forwarded to him at Masuot Yitzhak, D.N. Sdc Gat 79858.

Readers interested in further information on Dolphin Reef's extraordinary dolphin therapy for children with Downs, autism, physical disabilities, cancer, etc., should contact Sophie at 07-637-1846. It must be stressed that dolphin therapy will not provide a cure.

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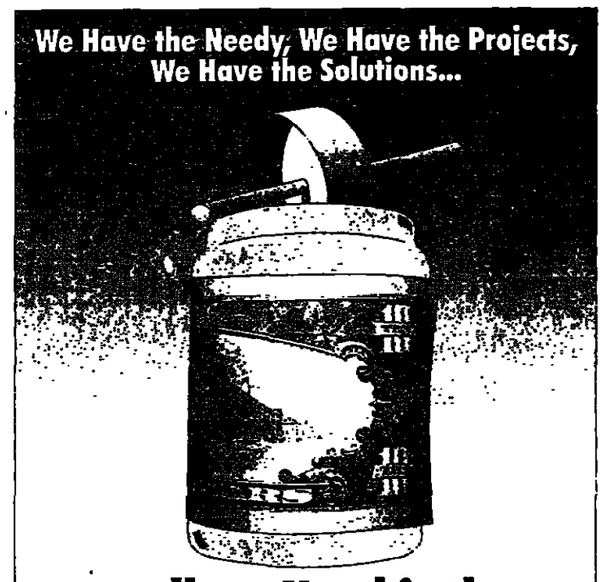
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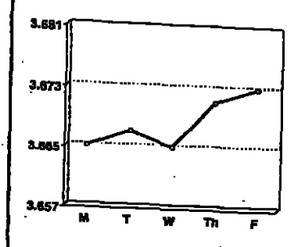
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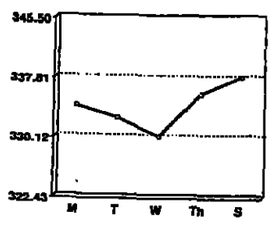
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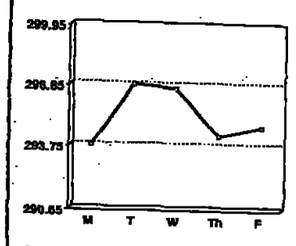
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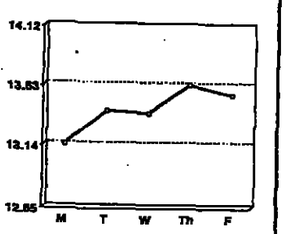
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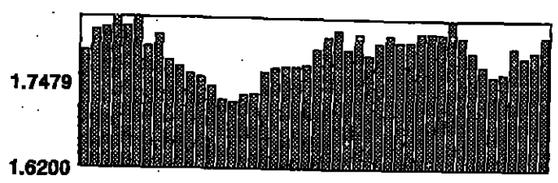
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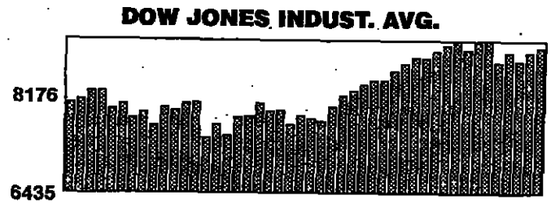


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Electra expands activity to Australia

Electra Consumer Products announced yesterday that it had purchased, through a subsidiary, the air-conditioning activity of Australian Email for $2.5 million. Electra would also use the company's brand name "Emailair." In a statement, Electra said that the purchased unit, with annual sales of $34m., will employ 50 workers. The advantage of purchasing a company "down under" is that it guarantees year-round demand for the products, since the seasons are reversed in Australia.

Electra already has subsidiaries in France, Spain, Italy, Germany, the UK, Hong Kong, China and India. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Consumer protection legislation moves forward

The Ministerial Committee on Legislation has approved the revisions to the Consumer Protection Law submitted by Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky. Among the changes are a requirement to offer guarantees for services and an update in the fines for violations, as the maximum fine of NIS 19,600 for misleading customers has not been changed in 16 years.

According to Sharansky's proposed change, the new maximum fine will be NIS 200,000, and NIS 400,000 for corporate violations or repeat offenders. The legislation will now be sent to the Knesset for a first reading. *Nina Gilbert*

Slavin appointed chairman of Grand Center

Real estate company Grand Center Development & Investment yesterday announced that former Treasury director-general Shmuel Slavin is being appointed chairman of the board.

Slavin resigned from the Finance Ministry on January 15 following a series of "professional disagreements" with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Howard Johnson Hotel to be built at Dead Sea

The Israel Land and Development Hotel Company has decided to buy land in the north Dead Sea area, near Kalia at Lido Beach, for the establishment of a Howard Johnson hotel, whose franchise here is held by the company. The venture is to be carried out in partnership with the Ofer Brothers and developer Roni Yitzhaki, who owns the land at present. ILD and Ofer are to each pay $1.17 million for their share of the land.

The hotel is to be constructed on 200 dunams and is to include other tourist attractions. The company said there is great demand for a hotel in the northern Dead Sea area and noted that a casino will be opening soon in nearby Jericho. Another Howard Johnson hotel is under construction in Nazareth and is to be ready to host pilgrims expected to arrive for the 2000 celebrations. The hotel is situated on four dunams and has 230 rooms. *Nina Gilbert*

Japanese aid to Palestinians likely to remain stable despite recession

By NINA GILBERT

The Japanese government will hopefully be able to keep foreign aid to the Palestinian Authority at the same level, despite the recession at home, Japanese Ambassador Yutaka Kawashima said yesterday.

"Certainly, the overall assistance on a global basis is under close scrutiny in Japan, so we have to be very careful that we select genuinely meaningful and important projects," he said. "We'll have to see how much [aid] we can squeeze out, but we do see the Palestinian Autonomy as a priority area. The recession is under way, but we are urging that global assistance" be maintained.

However, he said overall government expenditure is likely to be reshaped by the economic crisis. "We are hopeful that this will not hurt foreign aid, but we will see," he said.

Kawashima was speaking during a visit to villages in the Jenin area, where social and economic development have been carried out by the United Nations Development Program, mostly via Japanese aid.

Dozens of PA officials took part yesterday in a ceremony in Maythaloun, whose internal roads were paved, the electricity network upgraded, and the municipal council building constructed as part of the program. However, residents complained to PA officials at the ceremony that the village of 7,000 is still not connected to a water system.

The Japanese government's policy is to give assistance directly to development projects, such as those implemented by the UNPD. The organization spends about $40 million a year in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with about half of that sum coming from the Japanese government.

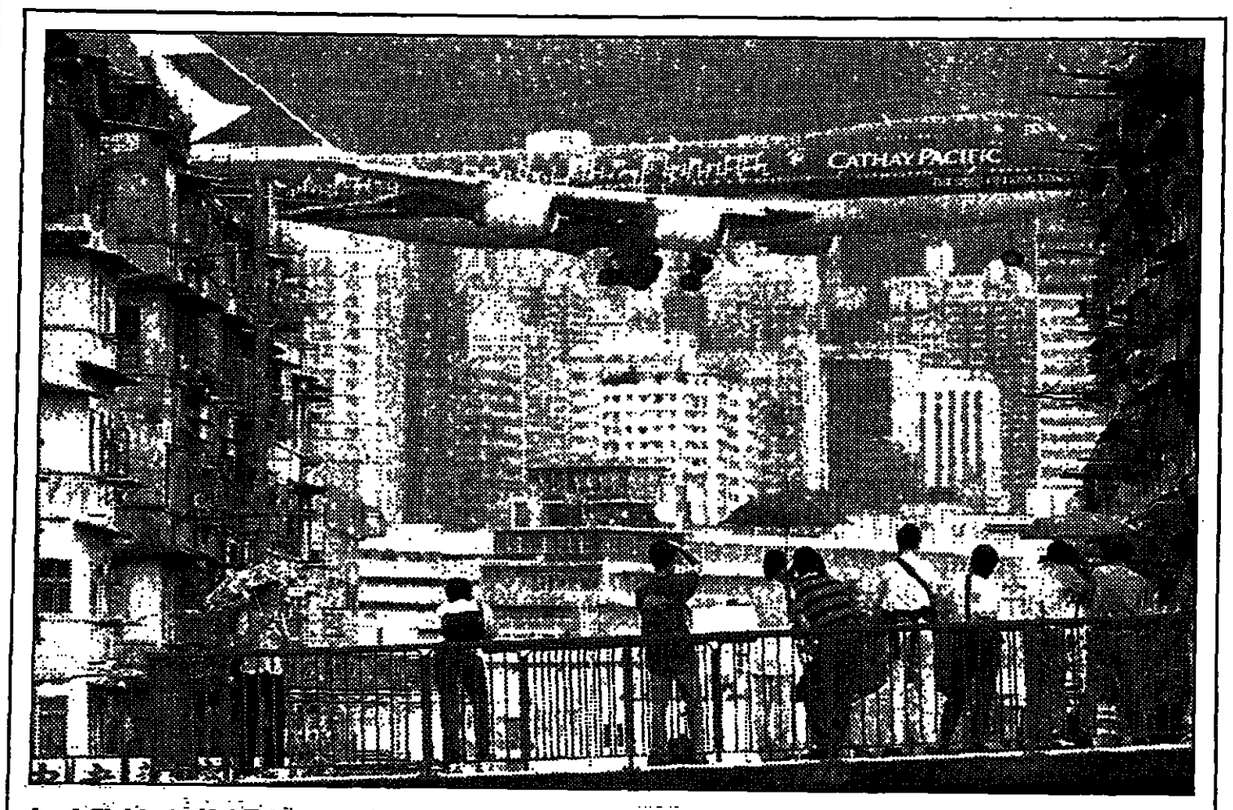
The Japanese government has given some $360 million in assistance to the PA since 1993, the largest contribution by any single donor country, Kawashima noted.

At the end of this year, the international donors who pledged some $2.5 billion in 1993 for a five-year aid program for the PA are to meet again.

Timothy Rothermel, the UNDP's Special Representative, said international enthusiasm in contributing to the West Bank is "waning after the great surge in donations in 1994 and 1995."

Kawashima said "five years ago we were really excited in Tokyo about this new emerging region. But at the moment we are a bit worried that the peace process is not in good shape and we are hopeful that it will pick up again."

However, he emphasized that "economic assistance is a kind of a safety net in a time of lack of progress in the peace process. Whether the peace process moves forward or not [the Palestinians] need economic development. That requires a lot of assistance from the outside. Economic development cannot in itself be a guarantee for political stability, but it is a necessary condition for better political stability."



Last flights to Kai Tak

Sightseers and plane lovers watch Cathay Pacific's 'Spirit of Hong Kong '97' land at Hong Kong's Kai Tak airport yesterday, hours before the airport closes and the city's new $20 billion Chek Lap Kok airport begins operations. (Reuters)

Israel moves to low-sulphur diesel in '99

By DAVID HARRIS

Starting January 1, Israeli vehicles with diesel engines will run on low-sulphur diesel, the National Infrastructure Ministry announced yesterday.

No vehicles will have to be adapted to the new gas, but Israel Oil Refineries (IOR) will have to spend as much as several million shekels in updating its production process. Presently IOR produces diesel, with a 0.2 percent sulphur content, from imported crude oil. The new regulation means IOR will have to produce a more environmentally friendly diesel with a 0.05% sulphur content.

"IOR is always interested in improving the quality of its goods, especially if that leads to improving the environment," said company spokesman Benzi Horwitz. "We also hope to receive a fair remuneration for more sophisticated goods."

Company sources explained that given the initial conversion process and the fact that production of the new diesel would be more costly, they hoped the government would help meet their bill. Otherwise the price increase may be reflected at the gas pumps, they said.

The National Infrastructure Ministry said in a statement that the new diesel mixture would bring the Israeli fuel up to European standards. However, energy consultant Amit Mor, general manager of Amit Consulting and Enterprises, said while this is a positive move, it still leaves Israeli diesel behind its European equivalents in environmental terms.

"Soon we must talk about our nitro-oxygen emissions, which are the major pollutant," Mor said.

Ministry gives initial approval for Dead Sea-Akaba railway link

By NOAH STREIT

The Interior Ministry has given initial approval for a Dead Sea-Akaba rail link, ministry spokesman Moshe Mosco said yesterday.

The railway, which was first proposed in the Israeli-Jordanian joint committee on infrastructure projects, will run from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Akaba, providing an inexpensive method for exporting potash, salt, and other minerals.

The railway will zig-zag across the Jordanian-Israeli border carrying the minerals from both countries' Dead Sea mineral plants to the Gulf.

A private feasibility study has recently been completed by Japanese-based Nissho Iwai, Japan's sixth largest corporation and thirteenth largest worldwide, according to the company's Tel Aviv business development manager, Shahar Meidan. Nissho commissioned the Wheeling Lake Erie railroad company (WLE) to prepare the feasibility report.

Nissho itself was commissioned by the Israel Land and Development Corporation (ILDC) to prepare the report.

Koichi Naito, Nissho's Tel Aviv general manager, said that, in about two weeks, Nissho Tel Aviv will be meeting in America with the Tokyo and American divisions of the company and with ILDC and WLE to finalize their plans and discuss comments by the National Infrastructure Ministry's committee on railway projects.

After this meeting, they are to submit a final proposal to the cabinet. If they receive approval, the proposal will be handed over to the National Planning and Construction Council for approval.

However, a source close to the negotiations said that any future projects between Jordan and Israel will not be realized until progress is achieved in the peace process, as Jordan will not currently enter into any deals with Israel.

Nonetheless, project planning is under way.

"Most of the line will be on the Jordanian side and therefore the issuance of tender will be according to Jordanian law," explained Infrastructure Ministry spokesman Ra'anan Gissin.

Israel Railways Director-General Amos Uzani said he is not sure how Israel Railways will be involved, "because it will probably be a private line."

He also stated that "the practical problem this project will face is financing."

The project is currently estimated to cost between $300 million - 350m.

"We hope that part of the money will be obtained through investments by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and other international organizations," said Meidan.

"Nissho Iwai is looking forward to being involved in this and other projects to promote peace, stability, and business in the region."

Other projects that may complement the Dead Sea-Akaba railway include a planned branch line connecting the Dead Sea to Nahal Zin.

This would allow the Jordanians and Israelis to utilize the already extant railway line from Nahal Zin to Ashdod to export the minerals from the Mediterranean port.

Hazera to raise $31m. on Nasdaq

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Hazera Quality Seeds announced yesterday that it plans to raise some $31 million in an initial public offering on Nasdaq.

The manufacturer said that its owners plan to sell stocks for another $14m.

According to the prospects submitted to the US Securities Exchange Committee last week, Hazera will sell 3.3 million shares for $13 to $15, valuing the company at some $180m. to $206m. US investment banks Salomon Smith Barney and Furman Selz will mange the offering.

In addition, Hapoalim Investments, which controls 50 percent of the company, said that Hazera has signed an agreement with the French company Vilmorin Clause & Cie, which will acquire 11.7% of Hazera. The transaction will be based on the IPO's price and is conditioned on the completion of the offering.

Hazera also will acquire 12.5% of two of Vilmorin's subsidiaries - Vilmorin S.A. in France and Harris-Moran Seed Inc. of the US - for $23.7m. The company also will receive bonds convertible into 3.83% of the companies' equity capital.

The Israeli and French companies also have signed an agreement for the exchange of know-how and technological cooperation.

Hapoalim Investments, which will reduce its holdings to 32.3% following the IPO, said it expects to record a capital gain of some NIS 60m. (The remaining shares are held by a company representing more than 100 kibbutzim, moshavim and agricultural cooperatives.)

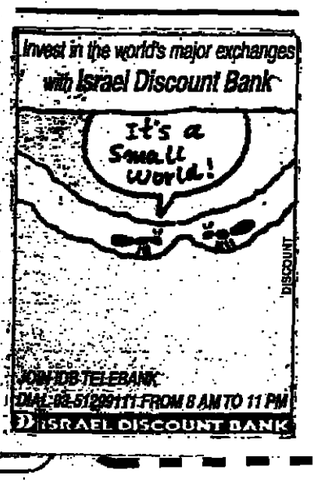
Founded in the early '40s, Hazera is Israel's largest breeder, producer and exporter of vegetable and field crop seeds. The company exports over 60% of its seed production to more than 50 countries. The company's main markets are in the Mediterranean, North Africa, Central America and the Far East.

Hazera presently is building up markets in North and South America and the Middle East.

Hazera recorded net profit of $6.8m. in 1997 on sales of $56.4m.

Net profit for the first quarter of the year was $924,000, while sales amounted to $12.1m.

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Possible increase in Claridge stake lifts Koor

The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange closed mixed yesterday, with Koor Industries extending gains after Claridge Israel, its largest shareholder, signed an accord giving it the option of raising its Koor stake by 20 percent.

Koor, the country's biggest exporter, gained 2% to 458 after being reiterated "outperform" at Lehman Brothers.

That helped the Maof Index of 24 largest companies and the Tel Aviv-100 Index to rise 0.61 percent to 337.61 and 323.47 respectively.

Bank Hapoalim, Koor's second-largest shareholder, agreed last Wednesday to give Claridge the right of first refusal on a 20 percent stake in Koor.

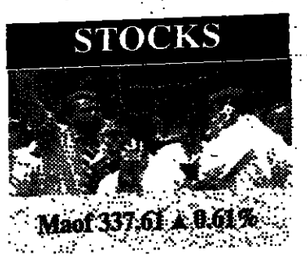
Hapoalim must comply with a law requiring it to shed its holding in either Koor or Clal Israel , a building materials-to-insurance company, by May 31, 1999.

Israel passed the law to decentralize the economy and control over the nation's largest companies.

"We view the deal favorably, providing clarity to the future ownership of Koor and a route through which Claridge can strengthen its position as controlling shareholder," said Elise Horowitz, an analyst at Lehman Brothers.

"We envisage Koor one year from now as a leaner, more profitable organization." Claridge chief executive Jonathan Kolber, who also became CEO at Koor last week, "is moving to achieve control," said Hadar Oshrat, a trader at Ilanot Batucha Investment.

The market approves of Kolber's effort to focus Koor's activities on agri-chemicals and telecommunications equipment, Oshrat said.



Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest bank, gained 0.9 percent to 11.05.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 133.4 million of shares were traded.

Poalim Investments gained 3.2% to 130 shekels. The investment company said it expects a capital gain of NIS 60m. after subsidiary Hazera , which markets agricultural seeds, sells shares on Nasdaq.

Clal Industries and Investments rose 1 percent to NIS 20.3 and parent Clal Israel was unchanged at NIS 1.044.

Clal Industries said it sold 40 percent of a rubber making subsidiary to an unidentified foreign company for $2.6 million, and included an option on another 14 percent of the subsidiary.

Formula Systems gained 1.1 percent to 133.7 shekels.

The software maker was raised to "buy" from "outperform" at Ofek Securities.

Among the dropping Maof shares, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries fell 1.1% to NIS 131.

(Bloomberg)

Blackstone may bid up to £400 million for Selfridges

US investment bank Blackstone could offer up to £400 million to buy British retailer Selfridges, the *Sunday Times* reported.

The board of Sears Plc. plans to demerge Selfridges next month in a flotation which is likely to give it a market valuation of some £325m. But Blackstone is believed to be prepared to offer £350-400m. for the company, which has its flagship department store on Oxford Street in central London.

Blackstone earlier this year took over luxury British hotel company Savoy Group in a £520m. deal.

The report said it had hired former Argos chief executive Stuart Rose as an adviser on a possible Selfridges deal and was also working with Moorfield Estates, a property company in which it has a nine percent stake.

The Blackstone group is keen to hold talks with Sears chairman Sir Bob Reid, the report added.

There was no immediate comment from any of the parties.

(Reuters)

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.080
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (3.7.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.8742	3.9367	—	—	3.9111
U.S. dollar	3.6392	3.6979	3.57	3.75	3.6730
German mark	2.0046	2.0370	1.97	2.07	2.0249
Pound sterling	6.0283	6.1256	5.92	6.22	6.0860
French franc	0.5981	0.6078	0.58	0.62	0.6039
Japanese yen (100)	2.6166	2.6589	2.57	2.70	2.6443
Dutch florin	1.7789	1.8076	1.74	1.84	1.7959
Swiss franc	2.3806	2.4190	2.33	2.46	2.4038
Swedish krona	0.4518	0.4591	0.44	0.47	0.4564
Norwegian krone	0.4693	0.4769	0.46	0.49	0.4746
Danish krone	0.5263	0.5348	0.51	0.55	0.5316
Finnish mark	0.6596	0.6702	0.64	0.68	0.6660
Canadian dollar	2.4861	2.5268	2.44	2.57	2.5091
Australian dollar	2.2528	2.2892	2.21	2.33	2.2754
S. African rand	0.5699	0.5791	0.51	0.58	0.5782
Belgian franc (10)	0.9723	0.9880	0.95	1.01	0.9816
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8501	2.8961	2.80	2.94	2.8777
Italian lira (1000)	2.0350	2.0679	2.00	2.10	2.0550
Jordanian dinar	5.1328	5.2156	5.07	5.41	5.1606
Egyptian pound	1.0300	1.1200	1.03	1.12	1.0835
ECU	3.9711	4.0352	—	—	4.0091
Irish punt	5.0468	5.1283	4.96	5.20	5.0974
Spanish pesets (100)	2.3625	2.4007	2.32	2.44	2.3839

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Superpharm Gimmel, 1 Achimeir, Ramat Aviv Gimmel, 641-7117; Superpharm Ministore, 4 King Saul Blvd, 696-0106. Till 1 a.m. Tuesday: Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvirol, 546-2040. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Golan Center. 198 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 774-5762.
Netanya: Rofe-el, 14 Stemper, 833-1107.
Haifa: Hanasi, 33 Hanasi, 833-3312. Krayot area: Kupat Holim Clalit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Misgav Ladach (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (opthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	100
FIRE	102
FIRST AID	101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:
Ashdod* 8551333, Ashkelon 6551332, Beersheba* 6274767, Beit Shemesh 6523133, Dan Region* 5793333, Eilat* 6332444, Haifa* 8512233, Jerusalem* 6523133, Karmiel* 9985444, Kfar Sava* 9902222, Nahariya* 9912333, Netanya* 8604444, Petah Tikva* 9311111, Rehovot* 9451333, Rishon* 9642333, Safed 6920333, Tel Aviv* 5460111, Tiberias* 6792444
* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

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TEL AVIV 100 LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	470	1.5
Africa Israel 0.1	20600	0
Africa Israel 1	182500	-0.8
Agis	2550	0.8
Al Paper Mills	15180	0.5
Al-Rov	2900	0
Azorim	2950	-0.3
Azorim Prop.	507	-3.1
Bank Leumi 0.1	739	0.8
Baran	3150	0
Bayside 1	44300	0.7
Bayside 5	202500	-1
Bezeq	1221	2.3
Blue Square	4460	1.1
Bromine	3200	-1.6
Clal Electronics	54000	-1.8
Clal Industries	2030	1
Clal Insurance	3750	0.8
Clal Israel 1	104.4	2.1
Dan Hotels	1200	-0.8
Dankner	1920	-3.1
Derban	945	0.5
Dead Sea Works 0.1	880	0.3
Delek 0.1	15000	0.7
Delek Car	735	0
Development Mort	24000	0
Discount Bank	495	1.2
Discount Inv.	11930	1.1
Elbit 0.003	910	0.2
Elbit imaging	3100	-0.6
Elbit system	4850	1.4
Elco	1866	3.6
Elco Industries	3110	0
Electra	17300	0
Electra App	1879	3.5
Elite Ind. 1	2440	0.4
Elite Ind. 5	12300	3.1
Elron 0.003	6470	-0.2
FIBI 6	69000	0.3
First Intl 1	580	0.5
First Intl 5	2900	-2.1
First Intrl Mort	55350	0
Formula	13370	1
General Bank	10800	0
Grand Hacarmel	755	5
Hadarim Prop.	6850	-4.2
Ham-Let	1992	0.1
Hapoalim 0.1	1105	0.9
Harel Mishmar 1	3850	0
Harel Mishmar 5	17700	0
I.D.B. Dev.	9770	0.4
I.D.B. Holdings	9690	0.4
IDC	2390	1.7
Ind Bldgs	605	0.3
Israel Chemicals	468	-0.9
Israel Corp. 1	29100	0.7
Isrotel	885	-2.2
Jalora	803	-0.5
JCT	388	0.5
JEC	1935	2.3
Kitan	323	0
Knafaim	5250	1.9
Koor	45800	2
Leader	1271	-1.5
Leumi Insurance	227	-0.9
Leumi Mortgage	86000	3.5
Linar	4200	2.9
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	1188	0.4
Maman	670	0
Matab	4400	0.5
Meladrin	14850	-1
Mei Eden	1550	0
Melissaron	1080	-0.9
Menorah Ins. 1	2200	0
Milomor	1580	0
Mishkan	65000	0
Mizrahi Inv.	9620	-2.2
NATSVA REGULAR	1430	-2.1
Nice Systems	13790	-0.6
Ocil	7950	0
Orbit	1565	-1
Ormat Industries	522	0.6
Osem Industries	1801	0.6
Petrochemicals	1915	1.6
Phoenix Ins. 1	5850	0
Poalim Inv.	13000	3.1
Prop & Bldg	33000	0
Salt Industries	2100	1
Solel Bone	4400	4.1
Supersol	1202	0.7
Tadiran	12480	2.2
Tambour	582	0
Tefahot	210000	-1.4
Tempo	1560	-4
Teva	13100	-1.1
Urdan	272	3.3
Wire and Cables	1300	-3
Ytong Industries	948	0

KARAM SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Boulous GD	400	0.3
Solomon Holdings	459	0
Abjac	1.9	0
Abudi	50	0
Ace-Spade	93	-0.5
Ackerstein Bond B	163.5	0
Ackerstein Ind.	487	0
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1789	8.9
Ackerstein Zvi 5	7070	0
adakom	36.5	0
Adanim	386761	0
Adler	103.5	0
Adsha	149	0
Adurrim	186.5	0.8
Africa Hotels Bond B	91	3.1
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	59.5	0
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	131.4	0.8
Afsek Ind	1040	0
Agis Warrant 3	23	0
Agis Warrant 4	544	3.5
Agish Intl	372	-9.9
Agn Investments	450	1.1
Al-Ben	152.5	0
Al-Ben Bond A	107.5	0.5
Alfie c2	95.3	0.3
Alfie w6	154.5	1.6
Alliance	788	0
Aloni	330	0
Alony-Hetz	498	-2
Alony-Hetz Bond A	239	0
Alrod	178	0
Alrod Warrant 1	3.7	27.6
Alrov Bond D	75.5	0
Alrov Warrant 5	399	0
Alumit	182.5	-1.1
Alumit	2652	-0.3
Amigar	160	0
Amitec	241	0
Ammell Warrant 1	28.5	0
Amnat	620	1.9
Ampa Investments	121500	-11.1
Analyst ES45	335	-1.4
Angel Trade	30.8	0
Angel Trade Bond A	146.5	-0.3
Angel Trade Bond B	102	0
Angel Trade Bond C	58.5	0
Apcon	1010	0
Apcon warrant 1	303	0
Applicom	3080	1
Aracell Warrant 2	399	0
Arad	1600	4.1
Arad Towels	880	0
Arazim	78	4.7
Arazim Bond 1	239	0
Argaman	235	2.1
Arkadan	1038	0
Arpal	398	0
Aryt	165	-0.6
Ashtelon Plywood	523	-0.5
Ashtelon Plywood Bond 1	244	-0.4
Ashtelon Plywood Bond 2	127	0
Ashtrad	389	0.3
Ashtad Bond A	150	0.3
Ashot	316	-1.6
Ashot Bond A	163	0
Ashgara	80.5	0
Ashtrom Bond 1	169	0
Ashtrom Bond 2	149.8	1.1
Ashtrom Ind	513	0
Ashtrom Prop.	203	0
Astrom P Bond 1	86	0
Astrom p warrant a	27	-11.1
Astrum Bond C	92	0
Astrum Warrent 2	30	0
Atilon	85.5	4.9
Atmor	2320	0.9
ATX	245	2.1
ATX Bond A	153.5	0
Atzmon	225	0
Atara	4960	0.6
Avarot	355	0
Avarot Bond A	155	0
Averbuch Formica	570	-3.1
Avnu	325	-0.3
Aviv Bond 1	151.5	0
Aviv Bond 2	86	0
Avnon	2.3	0
Avrot Bond 2	81	0
Avrot Warrant 2	56	0
Ayalon	475	0
Azimuth	435	0
Azorim Properties Bond 3	167.9	1.4
Azorim Warrant 13	500	0
Azorim Warrant 5	96	-0.2
Azorim Warrent A	688	0
Azorim Warrent B	714	0
Badash Bond 1	40.1	0
Baitfi	284	451
Balentine 1	165.5	0.6
Balentine Bond A	125.5	0
Balentine Warrant 2	4.8	0
Balron	2800	0
Bama'asat	103.5	0
Bema'asat Bond A	140.5	0
Bar	334	0
Bar Bond A	117.5	0
Barad	263	-0.4
Baranowitz	805	0
Barkan	788	0
Barsol	101	0
Bartal	218	0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	86.4	0
BaySide Warrant D	2300	0
Beit Shemesh	1780	0
Belmon	351	0
Ben Yakar Bond A	164	0
Ben Yakar Bond B	72.5	0
Ben Yakar Gat	3176	0
Berman	217	-0.9
Bezeik Bond 3	123.3	1.1
Bezeik Bond 4	2370	7.6
Bezeik Warrant 3	614	6.4
Bezeik Warrant Bond 3	549	4.4
Bilu	1797	0
Bilu Bond A	169	0
Binar	548	3
Bin	272	0
Bokos Bond B	77	0
Bokos gad warrant 1	43	-4.4
Bonei Tichon	630	-3.3
Bonjour	456	0
Boulous Brothers	168	0
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	256	0
Boulous GD Bond A	127.5	0.4
Brand	87.5	0
Brill	64	-0.8
Brok Side	18.1	-0.5
Brosh	113.5	0
Building Bank	1774	-0.5
Building Resou.	3490	1.7
C Holdings	585	-1.5
C Holdings Bond 5	86.5	0
C Holdings Warrant 3	2.4	-31.4
Caesarea 1	4700	2.3
Canel	3610	0.3
Capital	713	-4.5
Capital Bond A	108.2	0.2
Capnce	319	0
Cargal	610	0
Carmel	533	0
Carmel	461	0
Castro	508	0
Catalena 1	345	0
CDI	182	0
Cemantecal Bond A	65	0
Cemental	406	-0.7
Centre	126.5	0
Centre Bond 1	108	0
Cham	459	2
Chayun Computers	138.5	-4.5
Chemipal	451	0
Chim-Fer	520	5.8
CI Systems	174	-2.3
Ciddo	149.5	0
Clal Computers	9700	-1
Clal Israel 5	503	0
Clal Retail	74125	0
Cohen Beni	146.5	0
Cohen Dev.	240	0
Cohen MM	185.5	0
Cold Storage 1	1750	1
Cold Storage 5	8600	0.9
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	247	0
Compl	168.4	-2.2
Compl Warrent 1	20	0
Compulsie	164.5	0
Comtech	399	-5.5
Comtrans	779	0
Consal	998	0
Contractors	16812	0
Coral Beach	708	-0.7
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	35.1	0
Cyclone 1	2120	-7.1
Cyclone Bond 1	262	2.4
Cyclone Bond 2	152.5	0
Datron	1748	0
Datron Bond 1	245	-0.4
Dalin	1.5	-6.7
Dan Rent-A-Car	740	1.4
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	170	0
Danbar 1	4800	0
Danbar 5	17100	0.6
Danbar Bond A	263	0
Danbar Resources	6800	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	182	-0.3
Danbar Tech.	6610	0
Danber Technologies Bond A	146.9	0
Danel	71	0
Danel Bond A	82	0
Danel Personnel	2200	2.3
Danel Warrant 2	595	0
Dankner Bond 1	207	0
Dankner Bond 2	132.5	-0.3
Dankner Bond 3	90.1	0
Dankner Warrant C	428	0
Danity	582	10
Darad	105.5	0
DARBAN BOND 2	97	0
Darban Bond A	250	0
DARBAN W2	213	-0.9
Darban Warrant 3	162	0.1
Darea	113.5	-9.9
Darlon	145	-2.4
Dash investment	960	-2.1
Data	706	0
Decision Systems	983	-1.2
Degem Systems	475	0
Delek Drillings	11.5	0
Delek Oil	1497	0
Delta 1	3750	-1.1
Delta 3	10400	2
Destiny	1390	0
Digel	124	0
Dimri	1438	0
Dolev	370	-0.5
Dolev Bond A	134	0
Dolev warrant 1	49.9	0
Domicar	392	0
Domicar Bond	149.5	0.3
Dor Berger	400	0.5
Dor Chim	360	5
Dorc w1	120	0
Dorea	56	0
Dorl c1	99	0
Dori Engineering	455	-0.7
Dori Engineering Bond A	133.6	-0.4
Dovrat Bond A	133.6	0.2
Dovrat Shrem	1519	2.7
Dovrat Shrem Warrant 3	26.7	-10.1
DSL	1010	-5.8
Dubek M	1.7	0
Dubek S	1.4	-12.5
Duntiz	306	0
DYG Industries	434	0
E & M Computing	1090	-0.5
Edgar Albern	82.5	0
Edgar Industries	195	0
Edgar Inv. Bond C	85	0
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	24.8	-0.4
Efter Bond A	98	0
Eini	173	0
Elam	290	3.1
Eltoraan	3400	2.9
El Bad	3020	0
El Carel	608	0
El Canit Bond 1	156	0
Elad	582	-0.3
Elad Bond A	152.6	-0.2
Elad Bond B	133.6	0
Elad c3	63.5	0.8
Elad w5	38.9	0
Elbit Computers Bond B	122.5	0
Elbit Computers Warrant 2	603	0
Eldan Tech.	173	0
Electronics Line	504	0
Elgar	4950	-1.8
Elishav	472	0
Eltech Ind.	938	-0.2
Elxam	350	11.1
Ella	437	0
Ella Bond A	137	0
Elran	3630	0
Elron Warrant 2	2659	0
Emek	137	0
Emyle	730	-2.7
Engel Const.	799	4.3
ESE	2260	-0.9
Eshed Robotech	197	0
Even	382	0
Evergreen	3260	0
Evrois Warrant 1	1640	5.8
Excellence	1744	-0.5
Export Inv.	775	0.8
Extra	117.5	-0.4
Feldman	163	0
Feldman Bond A	143	0
Feldman Ind.	348	8.1
Feldman Warrant 3	8.5	0
Fertilisers 1	122	0.8
Feuchtwanger 1	11050	0
Feuchtwanger 5	53500	0
Fidelti	2655	0
Five J Jewelers	258	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	124.5	-1.2
Formica Source	162	-3
Frutarom	350	0
Gahelet	17600	-0.3
Galcom	196	8.4
Galram	1378	0
Gama	205	0
Gamatronic	565	0
Gambit	1627	0.2
Gan Shmoel Bond A	132.9	5.6
Gan Shmoel Warrant 3	749	6.5
Gan Shmuel	1760	4.8
Ganei Hadar	380	0
Gap Development	108.3	0
Gap Holdings	226	0
Gap Warrant 2	10.3	0
Gazit	606	0
Gazit Bond B	147.5	0
Gazit Bond C	119.3	0.3
Gibor Bond 1	85	0
Gibor Bond A	83	0
Gibor Sabrina	82	0
Gibor Sport	759	0
Gibor Warrant 2	118.8	5.7
Gilboa	88	0
Gilo	149.5	0
Giltek	2040	6.9
Givot Olam Oil	92.5	0
Glob Flr	730	0
Golan	598	3.8
Gold	370	-1.8
Golden House	357	0
Golden House Bond 1	245	0
Golex	194	0
Granit Bond	146.2	1.8
Granit Bond 2	153.1	2.8
Green Software	650	0
Greenberg	1508	0.5
H. Electronics	62	0
H. Mer	950	-4.2
Habas	2630	0
Habas Bond 1	122	0
Hader 1	21800	-1.8
Hader 5	94000	26.4
Hader Ins. 1	945	1.1
Hader Ins. 5	3910	0
Hadarim Bond1	113	0.9
Hadarim Warrant1	1400	-7.1
Hagal	402	0
Hagal Bond B	146	0
Hamelor	351	-1.1
Hanet	5.1	3.8
Harel Bond A	496	0
Hasin Esh	700	0
Hasson	177.5	0
Hatehol 1	290	-2.3
Hatehol Bond A	133	0
Hayal	1140	0
Hayal Bond1	11.1	0
Hayal Bond2	150	-2
Hayal Warrant 1	84.9	0
Hed Arzi Music	340	-5.9
Hiron 1	10110	-0.1
Hiron 5	36200	-5.2
HL Service Bond 2	185	3.1
HL Service Bond 3	142	0
HL Services	1128	0
Hod	115	0.9
Hol	609	0
Holi	130.5	0.4
Home Center	7560	0
Hydrolics	133	-1.1
IES Industries	650	0
IES Warrant 1	100	0
Ilan Gal	115.5	-0.4
Ilan Gal Bond A	143	0.4
ILDC Bond 6	256	-0.8
ILDC Hotels	440	-1.4
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	164	0
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	105	0
ILDC Insurance	395	5.6
ILDC Insurance Bond A	129.8	1
Imco	973	0
Ind Bld Warrant 3	54	0
Ind Bldgs R1	26.9	4.8
Ind.Dev.Bank C	285	0.4
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	2840	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	2850	-1.1
Ind.Dev.Bank Prel	1777	1.5
Independance Mort	85400	0
Intercosma	786	0
Intergamma 1	3600	0
Intergamma 5	12500	0
Iscar	1750	-2.9
Ispro	4050	0
Isracolor	465	0
Israel Corp. 5	1204000	0.6
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	133.1	0
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	173	0.9
Israfarm	1074	0
Isralom Bond B	283	0.4
Isralom Bond C	83.5	0
Isramco	2.8	-3.6
Isras 1	7200	0
Isras 5	27400	-0.4
Isras Bond A	245	0
ISTA LINES	2500	0
Itay	2680	0
Itay Bond 1	67.6	0
Itay Warrant 1	360	-9.7
Itay Warrant 2	20	0
Jalora Bond A	180	0
Jaysour	150	0
Jaysour Bond A	103	-1.9
JEC Bond B	88.2	0.2
Jerusalem Mort	207	1.4
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	155	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	100	0
JOEL Bond 1A	220	0
JOEL Bond 2	119.5	0
JOEL Bond A	218	0
JOEL Warrant 3	1.5	0
Kadmani	157	0
Kadouri	327	-0.3
kalrice bond b	77.7	0
kalrice warrant 1	78	0
Kahfi	1300	0.1
KalltaR Bond A	94	4.5
Kallsahi warrant 2	305	0
Kamour	587	0
Kamour Bond G	127	0
Kamsept	1230	1.4
Kanel Warrant G	1	0
Kanicol	27.5	0
Kanicol Bond A	43.2	0
Kardan 1	520	8.7
Kardan 5	2350	3.8
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	64	0
Kedem Chemicals	3880	0.8
Kedem Chemicals Bond 2	0	0
Kenitex	341	0
Kesher	683	0
Kesher Bond A	147	0
Keter	582	0
Kind	23.1	10
Kind Bond A	54	9.5
King	246	5.6
Kinneret	205	0
Kisch Kinir	177.5	0
Kishrii Tevlit	1230	0
Kital	402	0
Kital

Bogarde injury dampens Dutch euphoria

FRANCE 98 WORLD CUP

ROQUEBRUNE-CAP MARTIN (Reuters) – Dutch spirits came crashing down to earth yesterday, a day after their quarter-final win over Argentina, when defender Winston Bogarde was carried from training with a suspected broken leg.

"It's a terrible disappointment for him personally and for the team after the euphoria [of the win]," coach Guus Hiddink said at a news conference at the squad's hotel.

The Dutch camp could not confirm whether the injury was a break but Hiddink said he believed Bogarde had fractured his right fibula.

Bogarde had not played a part in the tournament but is the reserve left-back and seemed certain to start tomorrow's semifinal against Brazil after incumbent Arthur Numan was sent off in the quarter-final. Numan was automatically suspended for one match.

There is no obvious alternative. Captain Frank de Boer has played on the left many times for his club although he prefers playing in the center. With Brazil's Ronaldo to contend with, Hiddink is also likely to prefer him in the middle .

Hiddink would not be drawn on who would fill the gap but one viable option would be to pull the versatile Phillip Cocu back from left midfield. If Hiddink did so, it would make Cocu one of a rare breed who has played on defense, midfield and attack in the same World Cup.

Brazil have golden chance for fifth title

Brazil have a golden chance to win their fifth World Cup title as mental durability dictates which of the four semifinalists can survive another two matches without cracking.

France, Croatia and the Netherlands have never won the World Cup before, while the Brazilians have won the trophy an unprecedented four times.

The three outsiders have all at times played stunning soccer to reach the last four but the Brazilian Rolls Royce engine looks as if it may be just beginning to move into top gear.

By the middle of the week, each team will have played six matches in four weeks. Physically and mentally, the players will be drained.

Most professionals have similar levels of physical fitness these days but levels of psychological stamina – the ability to concentrate on the task in hand for as long as it takes – vary according to experience.

Brazil, despite some spectacular cases of soccer suicide over the years, have held together well as a team so far in France.

The Brazilians have scored 13 goals, the most of the last four, but they have also conceded the most, six goals, and have only kept one clean sheet in the competition.

They have been sorely tested at times and Denmark forced them to produce their best performance so far in France before edging the Danes 3-2.

Despite coach Mario Zagallo's attempts to tighten the Brazilian defense, it remains the team's weakest point.

With four players – Ronaldo, Bebeto, Rivaldo and Cesar Sampaio – having scored three goals in France already, opposition defenses will be stretched to breaking point.

Worrying for Brazil will be the perfect timing of Dennis Bergkamp's return to his best form. With three goals to date, Bergkamp missed the end of the English season but produced two moments of magic against Argentina.

He made a goal for Patrick Kluivert with a visionary header and then – with three touches – controlled the ball, beat defender Roberto Ayala and rifled the ball home to score the Dutch winner in the 90th minute.

The second semifinal pits hosts France against Croatia, a fascinating duel that matches the statistically weakest attack of the last four against the strongest defense. Croatia have scored just eight goals while France have conceded one.

With 55 million French people roaring on their team, Croatia will be hard-pressed to repeat the dramatic 3-0 quarter-final victory that eliminated Germany.

Ince played with broken bone

England midfielder Paul Ince told British Sunday newspapers he had played in the World Cup despite having a broken ankle bone.

Ince, who played with his left ankle heavily strapped, missed a penalty in the shoot-out with Argentina which put England out of the World Cup in the second round.

Ince said he hurt the ankle in a tackle during a Premier League match in May but did not realize until he had an ultrasound scan after England's World Cup defeat by Romania in their second group match that a piece had broken off the bone.

The Liverpool midfielder said he and England manager Glenn Hoddle had decided to keep the injury a secret.

"I was in agony at times," Ince told the newspapers. "It needed weeks of rest but I wasn't prepared to sit out the World Cup."



GETTING HIS BACK UP – The Netherlands' Patrick Kluivert balances a ball on his back while doing pushups. The Dutch will meet Brazil in tomorrow's semifinal. France and Croatia will contest the second semifinal on Wednesday. (Reuters)

EuroLeague draw kind to Maccabi Tel Aviv

By BRIAN FREEMAN

Maccabi Tel Aviv was drawn into a relatively easy pool for the upcoming EuroLeague season in Munich yesterday.

Although Maccabi was placed in the same group as perennial power Panathinaikos, the only only other club from one of the top three leagues in Europe (Greece, Italy and Spain) was Spanish club Manresa, which is making its first appearance.

The other teams in Maccabi's Group B are Cibona Zagreb, Efes Pilsen and Red Star Belgrade.

While Maccabi has faced Cibona and Efes numerous times over the years, this is the first time the blue-and-yellow will battle Red Star Belgrade in EuroLeague competition since 1973.

Maccabi also has good news in the composition of Group A, which Maccabi must face in the second round following the 10-game first stage.

Group A – consisting of Saratov (Russia), Vitoria (Spain), Fenerbahce Istanbul (Turkey), Zalgiris Kaunas (Lithuania), Pau-Orthez (France) and Varese (Italy) – appears to be the weakest of the four groups.

This means that Maccabi should have a good chance to earn one of the home-court advantages in the Final 16 best-of-three series, something the team has not had in its losses at that stage the past two seasons.

Group C appears to be the toughest group in the 24-team EuroLeague, with defending European champions Kinder Bologna, Ulker Istanbul, CSKA Moscow, Alba Berlin, Zadar (Croatia) and Olympiakos.

Group D has PAOK Salonika, Samar (Russia), Teamsystem Bologna, Olimpija Ljubljana, Villeurbanne (France) and Real Madrid.

In the less prestigious 48-team European Cup competition (which has been renamed the Saporta Cup), Hapoel Eilat was placed in Group E with Valencia (Spain), Wroclaw (Poland), Buducnost (Yugoslavia), Broceni (Latvia) and St. Polten (Austria).

Hapoel Jerusalem was placed in Group E with Tafas (Turkey), Wallone (Belgium), Vilnius (Lithuania), Kormend (Hungary) and Bosna (Bosnia).

In the draw for the 64-team Korac Cup, Maccabi Ra'anana received a bye to the main competition, while the other two Israeli clubs participating must win a two-leg preliminary round.

Rishon Lezion faces Sibiu (Romania), while Galil Elyon battles Panathinaikos Limassol (Cyprus).

Bugner is oldest heavyweight champ

GOLD COAST, Australia (Reuters) – Joe Bugner has realized a long-held dream winning a world heavyweight boxing title at age 48, although it occurred in circumstances he later described as embarrassing.

Bugner won the vacant World Boxing Federation version of the crown in a fight on Saturday that lasted just one round.

But the win made the grandfather of three the oldest heavyweight champion in boxing history.

Bugner, now an Australian citizen via Hungary and Britain, hardly had to exert himself as American opponent James "Bonecrusher" Smith said he dislocated his shoulder after throwing his first punch.

Smith, at 45 three years Bugner's junior, managed to get through the opening round but then did not start the second.

"Whether his shoulder's popped or not, I don't care, all I know is that James was not in the mood to fight me any more after that one round because he knew that he was going to be in for big trouble," Bugner said afterwards.

The result meant that 23 years after losing on points to Muhammad Ali in his only other shot at a world title, Bugner was finally a world champion.

American George Foreman set the previous age record when he won a world title in 1994 at 45.

Smith, who lost his World Boxing Association title to Mike Tyson in 1987, came out aggressively at the start of the first round and landed a big right that obviously stung Bugner.

"The way I won the WBA title was a first-round knockout and the very first punch that landed, it got Joe in trouble," said Smith, a preacher in North Carolina. "It just so happened it got me in trouble too."

The fight doctor, Ron Finlay, said the soft tissue damage caused by the dislocation of Smith's shoulder meant the fight could not continue.

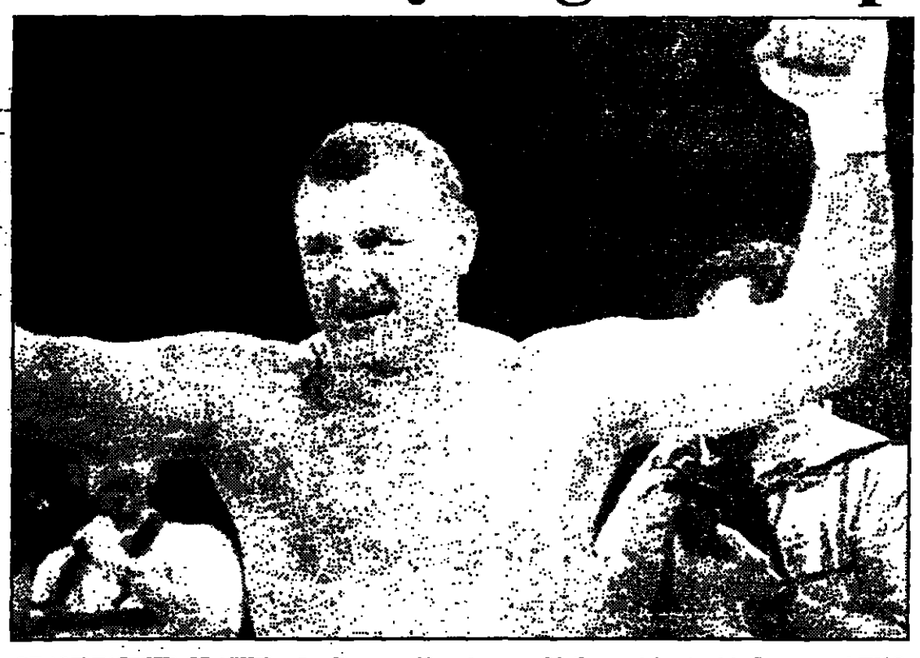
"Certainly, if the referee hadn't stopped the fight, I would have, to protect James from further injury," Finlay said.

Bugner conceded the opening flurry had stung him, but said he had weathered it and was on top by the end of the first round.

The win took Bugner's record to 68 wins, 13 losses and one draw.

Bugner said he had one fight left in him, and he wanted to prove to the world that he was a worthy champion, because of the "embarrassing" circumstances of Saturday's victory.

"I really would like to defend my title against somebody who would maybe not throw a shoulder, because it's very embarrassing, not only for us but for "Bonecrusher" as well," said Bugner.



GRANDFATHER CLAUSE – Joe Bugner, 48 and a grandfather, celebrates his first-round TKO of James "Bonecrusher" Smith on Saturday. (Reuters)

Bulls back on top of AFL

MELBOURNE (AP) – Brett Montgomery kicked three late goals as Western Bulldogs bounced back from two straight losses to reclaim the lead in the Australian Football League competition on the weekend.

Montgomery's late surge helped the Bulldogs to a 12.11 (83) to 9.11 (65) victory over Melbourne after the Demons had led narrowly for the first three quarters.

The Bulldogs went ahead of St. Kilda on percentages after the Saints' were thrashed by 66-points against North Melbourne.

North captain Wayne Carey was in outstanding form as his side showed it was back in premiership contention after a slow start.

Carey had 14 marks and 26 possessions, kicked six goals and easily bettered five opponents.

North coach Denis Pagan said Carey played with Achilles, hip and groin injuries.

West Coast continued its strong mid-season run, winning its seventh from eight games with a 27-point win at Brisbane.

The Eagles kept the Lions goalless from midway through the second term to midway through the last in their 11.10 (76) to 6.13 (49) win.

Richmond consolidated its place in the top four with a 62-point win over Carlton at the MCG.

The Tigers' 20.12 (132) to 11.4 (70) victory was their ninth in 15 games. Carlton kicked the first four goals of the match, but failed to score in the second quarter.

Sydney forward Tony Lockett celebrated his 250th game with a matchwinning performance in the Swans' first victory over Fremantle in Perth. Lockett kicked six goals in a 13.4 (82) to 10.9 (69) victory.

Collingwood stayed on track for the finals with a 10-point upset of Geelong at the MCG.

The Magpies, without star player Nathan Buckley, won 10.11 (71) to 9.7 (61) in driving rain.

Adelaide also triumphed in wet conditions against Hawthorn at Football Park, winning 9.14 (68) to 4.11 (35), as the reigning premier cemented itself in third spot.

Essendon edged a spot closer to the top eight when it beat Port Adelaide at the MCG, securing a comfortable 16.12 (108)

Results of Australian Football League round 14 matches on the weekend: West Coast 11.10 (76) def. Brisbane 6.13 (49), North Melbourne 22.13 (145) def. St Kilda 12.7 (79), Western Bulldogs 12.11 (83) def. Melbourne 9.11 (65), Essendon 16.12 (108) def. Port Adelaide 12.9 (81), Richmond 20.12 (132) def. Carlton 11.4 (70), Sydney 13.4 (82) def. Fremantle 10.9 (69), Collingwood 10.11 (71) def. Geelong 9.7 (61), Adelaide 9.14 (68) def. Hawthorn 4.11.

Carter denies Montgomerie

DUBLIN (AP) – David Carter denied Colin Montgomerie his third successive Irish Open title yesterday by winning the first hole of a sudden death play-off.

South African-born Carter clinched his first European tour title when Montgomerie missed a bogey putt on the first play-off hole on the 18th at Druids Glen.

The pair finished level at six-under-par 278 after 72 holes but Carter took the $ 276,656 winner's purse following the play-off.

The 26-year-old had squandered a four stroke lead with two bogeys and a double bogey over the last six holes but holed a 20-foot putt on 18 to force the play-off.

World champ in 400m hurdles to compete at National Athletics Championships

By HEATHER CHAIT

World record holder in the 400 meters hurdles, Kevin Young, will be the main attraction at the 62nd National Athletics Championships to be held at the Hadar Yosef stadium on July 19-20.

Young, from the United States, is the only hurdler to break 47 seconds in this event with a time of 46.78 seconds.

Another name to watch is sprinter Andre Cason, also from the US, with a best time of 9.92 in the 100 meters.

To honor the 50th anniversary celebrations, 10 Jewish athletes from around the world, including two Australians injured in the bridge tragedy of last year's Maccabiah, have been invited to compete.

Eight local athletes have already booked their places in the European Championships next month in Budapest but will be eager to hone their skills.

They are triple jumpers Rogel Nahum and Avi Tayri, pole vaulters Danny Krasnov and Konstantin Simyonev, sprinters Tommy Cafri and Kfir Golan, high jumper Itai Margalit and marathon runner Zvadia Wodag.

Nahum has been selected as the athlete of the year for his sixth place in the indoor world championships and his world ranking of 23. He will receive NIS 5,000 from Bank Discount, the main sponsor of local athletics.

The triple jump at this championships will be a showdown between Nahum and Tayri while visitor Vladimir Kravchenko (17.08m) from the Ukraine will be making his own bid.

"I will have to beat the 17 meter mark to win," said Nahum yesterday, adding that he had recently returned to peak form after a mental low following his father's death.

The sprint events are expected to attract a wide interest with several local runners in excellent form. Cafri has already broken 10:40 this year in the 100m, with his time of 10:37 but will be facing tough competition from last year's champion Kfir Golan.

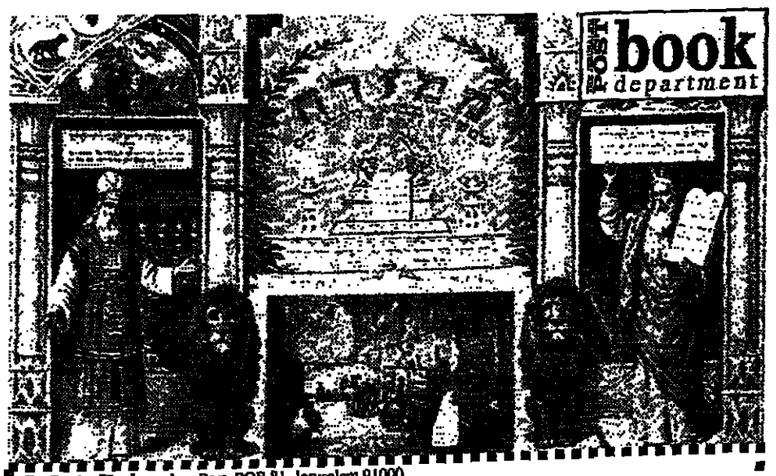


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Major League Statistics

(Through Friday's games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv
Cleveland	3.84	751	321	275	511	4	20
New York	3.88	652	306	233	529	5	27
Minnesota	4.11	805	346	216	460	3	20
Boston	4.14	694	342	248	516	6	27
Tampa Bay	4.43	758	371	336	527	4	17
Anaheim	4.48	794	374	318	561	2	29
Toronto	4.58	803	399	319	608	4	23
Kansas City	4.95	835	414	298	546	5	23
Oakland	4.97	793	412	287	468	1	20
Texas	5.01	843	423	275	520	5	25
Seattle	5.06	819	423	283	612	4	12
Detroit	5.07	776	407	281	466	2	13
Baltimore	5.20	842	440	290	587	6	18
Chicago	5.87	842	486	352	455	1	15

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 9 decisions

	IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
Colon Cle	124	100	41	98	9	4	2.46
Radke Min	120	117	23	79	9	6	2.77
PMartinez Bos	125	99	34	142	11	2	2.87
Irabe NYY	86	67	40	65	6	3	2.91
CFinley Ana	124	114	57	128	8	4	3.05
Arrojo TB	120	109	27	96	10	5	3.06
Rogers Oak	121	102	36	66	8	3	3.18
Olivares Ana	98	88	53	58	5	4	3.39
Moyer Sea	125	127	19	81	5	6	3.53
Moehler Det	113	111	24	68	8	5	3.58
Burba Cle	112	106	39	73	10	5	3.62
Mussina Bal	89	79	17	82	6	5	3.63
WWilliams Tor	114	101	33	92	8	3	3.63
Clemens Tor	111	91	52	113	9	6	3.71
DWells NYY	112	101	17	88	11	2	3.75
Pettitte NYY	120	123	54	87	10	5	3.90
Belcher KC	121	129	34	78	7	7	3.93
Rosado KC	89	90	24	67	3	6	3.94
Fassero Sea	104	103	32	78	7	5	3.96
Haynes Oak	104	104	45	70	6	3	4.04
JThompson Det	120	111	39	74	6	8	4.05
JrWright Cle	106	107	47	78	7	5	4.15
Helling Tex	114	113	40	84	11	4	4.25
Sele Tex	112	115	43	99	11	5	4.26
Wakefield Bos	123	110	39	76	10	3	4.29
Cone NYY	96	87	24	99	11	2	4.39
WAlvarez TB	55	55	19	44	4	5	4.39
Erickson Bal	132	156	35	101	8	6	4.43
Tewksbury Min	96	106	11	38	4	9	4.48
Hentgen Tor	111	119	41	60	9	5	4.76
Saberhagen Bos	84	88	17	47	10	5	4.78
RJohnson Sea	118	117	47	158	7	7	4.81
Milton Min	99	111	35	52	4	7	4.82
Swift Sea	87	99	27	48	8	4	4.83
Rapp KC	105	119	56	75	7	7	4.89
Saunders TB	95	98	57	92	1	9	4.91
Guzman Tor	116	110	53	94	4	10	5.01
Sirotka ChW	117	140	23	66	8	8	5.06
Rusch KC	106	127	36	60	6	9	5.06
KHill Ana	78	94	37	45	8	5	5.15
Hawkins Min	98	110	32	52	4	8	5.22
Candiotti Oak	109	128	39	53	5	10	5.33
Pichardo KC	66	71	32	34	4	7	5.43
Nagy Cle	108	138	31	54	7	4	5.48
DSpringer TB	87	97	44	32	2	10	5.59
Navarro ChW	105	135	41	42	6	10	5.83
Oquist Oak	95	104	32	65	4	5	5.87
Burkett Tex	115	133	28	80	4	9	5.95
Clonde Sea	87	101	45	65	4	7	6.06
Dickson Ana	79	98	26	37	8	6	6.13
Bere ChW	83	98	58	53	3	7	6.45
DOliver Tex	80	110	35	43	4	6	6.83
Drabek Bal	73	95	15	40	5	8	7.12
Witt Tex	69	95	33	30	5	4	7.66

TEAM BATTING

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Texas	2987	497	861	100	470	.288
Boston	2907	453	832	101	424	.286
New York	2734	479	779	90	446	.284
Cleveland	2914	463	813	101	441	.278
Anaheim	2909	430	801	100	398	.275
Seattle	2991	456	815	136	438	.272
Detroit	2836	383	768	88	372	.270
Baltimore	2961	420	800	107	402	.270
Oakland	2899	446	777	77	423	.268
Chicago	2903	422	775	90	392	.266
Minnesota	2920	390	774	63	365	.265
Kansas City	2903	359	766	72	340	.263
Toronto	2960	409	773	112	395	.261
Tampa Bay	2856	307	739	60	283	.258

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 200 plate appearances

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
BWilliams NYY	224	47	79	10	44	.353
JMorris KC	258	30	90	1	23	.349
IRodriguez Tex	300	50	103	10	44	.343
Stairs Oak	254	43	85	11	56	.335
Thome Cle	295	64	97	22	72	.329
TWalker Min	262	45	86	6	33	.328
MVaughn Bos	309	49	101	21	56	.327
Segui Sea	300	50	98	14	61	.327
Jefferson Bos	181	24	59	8	30	.326
Baines Bal	190	25	62	5	37	.326
Higginson Det	317	59	103	16	46	.325
O'Neill NYY	317	55	102	11	62	.322
Erstad Ana	360	58	115	18	59	.319
Carruso ChW	264	39	84	3	25	.318
Garciaparra Bos	293	52	93	13	55	.317
Grieve Oak	323	65	102	12	52	.316
Djeter NYY	291	61	91	10	42	.313
DiSarcina Ana	278	42	87	3	30	.313
ARodriguez Sea	369	63	115	27	69	.312
Brosius NYY	272	45	84	8	52	.309
Edmonds Ana	310	62	95	14	49	.306
LGonzalez Det	282	45	86	10	40	.305
CDelgado Tor	253	42	77	15	51	.304
MRamirez Cle	290	54	88	18	66	.303
WClark Tex	294	52	89	12	52	.303
McCracken TB	340	38	102	7	34	.300
MCordova Min	227	31	68	7	41	.300
Vizquel Cle	313	51	94	0	30	.300
GAnderson Ana	314	31	94	10	39	.299
Merced Min	187	20	56	5	28	.299
GHill Sea	251	37	75	12	33	.299
Griffey Jr Sea	341	76	101	35	78	.296
EMartinez Sea	291	41	86	14	51	.296
RPalmeiro Bal	334	53	99	26	72	.296
RAlomar Bal	322	53	95	8	32	.295
Easley Det	316	50	93	19	62	.294
O'Leary Bos	324	54	95	14	46	.293
DLewis Bos	294	48	86	4	32	.293
JuGonzalez Tex	345	58	101	24	96	.293
Palmer KC	288	43	84	16	48	.292
TFernandez Tor	237	36	69	6	38	.291
Fletcher Tor	190	20	55	5	30	.289
McLemore Tex	239	48	69	4	38	.289
EDavis Bal	187	34	54	11	28	.289
Justice Cle	306	53	88	12	47	.288
Durham ChW	330	60	94	7	28	.285
Surhoff Bal	309	37	88	12	54	.285
DaBell Cle	213	23	60	5	24	.282
SGreen Tor	323	51	91	16	42	.282
Lofton Cle	323	56	91	7	41	.282
Damon KC	345	51	97	8	26	.281
Giambi Oak	289	48	81	12	50	.280
Greer Tex	311	55	87	7	52	.280
Belle ChW	319	52	89	18	65	.279
Molitor Min	262	37	73	1	35	.279
ToClark Det	302	48	84	17	59	.278
Offerman KC	324	51	90	4	35	.278
Boggs TB	210	22	58	5	25	.276
FTatis Tex	262	31	72	3	28	.275
TGoodwin Tex	295	56	81	1	11	.275
JKing KC	306	54	84	16	60	.275
MOrdonez ChW	278	35	76	9	39	.273
Cairo TB	255	26	69	3	24	.271
Walbeck Ana	192	24	52	4	27	.271
TMartinez NYY	258	45	70	14	65	.271
Spiezio Oak	241	36	65	7	36	.270
Bragg Bos	189	27	51	4	31	.270
FThomas ChW	309	52	83	14	54	.269
Curtis NYY	250	46	67	8	36	.268
Fryman Cle	310	37	83	13	49	.268
Nixon Min	213	35	57	1	9	.268
Salmon Ana	191	33	51	15	42	.267
Ventura ChW	307	50	82	10	42	.267
JCora Sea	327	55	87	2	11	.266
Stewart Tor	245	33	65	2	15	.265
Lawton Min	284	49	75	10	45	.264
Knoblauch NYY	297	57	78	4	29	.263
Stanley Tor	270	43	71	18	38	.263
McGriff TB	304	33	80	8	42	.263
RDavis Sea	278	37	72	14	50	.259
BLHunter Det	324	36	84	3	20	.259
CRipken Bal	321	37	83	7	36	.259
DCruz Det	198	22	51	2	14	.258
Carter Bal	248	31	64	9	28	.258
RCoomer Min	280	29	72	11	40	.257
SAlomar Cle	237	33	61	5	30	.257
Elster Tex	226	29	58	6	29	.257
Meares Min	289	34	74	5	35	.256
JnValentin Bos	303	59	77	10	35	.254
Bordick Bal	240	27	61	5	22	.254
Blowers Oak	239	34	60	5	47	.251
DvHollins Ana	292	48	73	9	29	.250
Steinbach Min	214	25	53	6	18	.248
Stevens Tex	219	31	54	13	38	.247
DWilson Sea	244	25	60	5	31	.246
Cordero ChW	196	33	48	7	25	.245
AGonzalez Tor	320	35	78	9	37	.244
DaMartinez TB	275	28	67	2	18	.244
Hinch Oak	190	18	46	5	17	.242
Sprague Tor	293	35	71	9	41	.242
Fielder Ana	293	37	71	14	57	.242
Sorrento TB	250	26	60	12	37	.240
Henderson Oak	306	55	73	8	37	.239
Canseco Tor	284	53	67	24	48	.236
Ramda Det	279	36	65	4	29	.233
Stocker TB	238	28	53	6	20	.223
Cameron ChW	244	31	52	4	32	.213
ByAnderson Bal	247	38	52	9	29	.211

NATIONAL LEAGUE

TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv
Atlanta	3.36	707	287	232	642	12	19
New York	3.36	658	271	267	550	9	20
Pittsburgh	3.54	742	305	255	589	8	25
Houston	3.57	780	303	255	544	6	25
San Diego	3.67	744	315	292	610	4	31
San Francisco	3.73	741	332	322	600	4	27
Los Angeles	3.86	713	328	304	627	5	21
Milwaukee	4.00	773	336	281	548	0	24
Chicago	4.33	804	374	309	648	4	24
Cincinnati	4.49	779	386	302	556	2	25
Montreal	4.50	786	374	267	531	1	20
Philadelphia	4.72	745	393	271	650	6	21
St. Louis	4.82	798	404	290	507	6	23
Arizona	4.94	789	412	288	479	2	16
Florida	5.05	847	426	375	533	1	10
Colorado	5.19	842	444	324	511	2	20

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 9 decisions

	IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
GMaddux Atl	146	111	17	115	12	2	1.54
Aleiter NYM	101	79	37	96	9	4	1.86
Ashby SD	133	122	35	90	10	5	2.57
Glavine Atl	123	117	39	84	12	3	2.63
KBrown SD	133	126	29	119	10	3	2.69
RReed NYM	113	93	18	83	9	5	2.71
Hampton Hou	103	107	39	65	8	3	2.80
RJMartinez LA	101	76	41	91	7	3	2.83
Schilling Phi	145	122	34	180	8	8	2.92
Bergman Hou	87	92	21	43	7	4	2.98
Miceli SD	41	39	17	39	7	3	3.02
TAdams ChC	47	40	24	50	6	5	3.02
Harnisch Cin	119	95	41	88	7	3	3.03
Scottdemyre Stl.	139	111	46	125	9	6	3.10
FCordova Pit	115	109	28	77	6	7	3.19
Woodard Mil	68	66	12	55	5	5	3.29
Beliada Cin	40	32	22	41	3	6	3.32
Reynolds Hou	128	142	33	105	10	5	3.36
Wood ChC	93	63	51	139	8	3	3.37
Hermanson Mon	82	72	28	69	6	7	3.39
Silva Pit	81	82	20	57	6	3	3.44
Neagle Atl	125	118	30	94	9	6	3.46
Dreifort LA	106	102	25	91	5	6	3.55
Gomes Phi	52	51	12	48	6	3	3.63
Lima Hou	121	131	21	87	7	5	3.70
BJJones NYM	104	92	28	54	7	5	3.72
CPerez Mon	129	139	30	64	6	8	3.75
Hershiser SF	110	89	51	69	7	6	3.85
Lieber Pit	112	109	28	89	5	10	3.86
Schmidt Pit	107	109	33	77	8	4	4.01
Schourek Hou	56	57	29	40	5	5	4.02
Peters Pit	58	59	26	38	3	6	4.03
BaAnderson Ari	104	106	18	52	5	7	4.14
PValdes LA	118	116	45	80	6	8	4.19
Rueter SF	100	111	37	58	10	3	4.20
LHernandez Fla	128	146	50	93	7	4	4.20
Trachsel ChC	108	112	44	83	7	5	4.22
Estes SF	115	107	62	106	6	7	4.28
Eldred Mil	109	129	49	69	4	5	4.29
Loaiza Pit	86	92	27	49	6	4	4.38
Tapani ChC	119	128	34	79	9	6	4.39
Darwin SF	95	106	29	59	6	5	4.42
Remlinger Cin	98	96	48	77	5	9	4.50
Karl Mil	95	116	35	50	6	4	4.52
Joden Mil	113	107	53	91	7	7	4.54
Meadows Fla	98	110	27	47	6	6	4.58
TGreen Phi	103	88	55	81	6	4	4.60
JSanchez Fla	88	97	49	68	3	6	4.67
AnBenes Ari	129	136	39	82	6	9	4.73
Park LA	104	113	46	84	7	5	4.76
Millwood Atl	86	81	30	79	9	4	4.78
Blair Ari	116	130	39	57	3	11	4.89
MClark ChC	112	127	29	86	4	8	4.89
Nomo NYM	93	81	55	99	2	8	4.90
Tomko Cin	106	106	33	79	7	6	4.92
Gardner SF	103	109	37	68	7	3	4.95
Thomson Col	84	91	26	64	5	6	5.02
Kile Col	126	134	68	74	5	11	5.04
JHamilton SD	122	130	67	78	6	9	5.15
Beech Phi	85	89	43	81	3	6	5.15
Petkovsek Stl.	66	74	26	36	5	4	5.32
JeGonzalez ChC	88	101	35	57	7	5	5.60
Vazquez Mon	98	107	37	78	3	6	5.69
JmWright Col	109	123	56	47	5	8	6.03
Mercker Stl.	80	103	27	33	5	5	6.07
Astacio Col	112	124	39	95	6	8	6.07

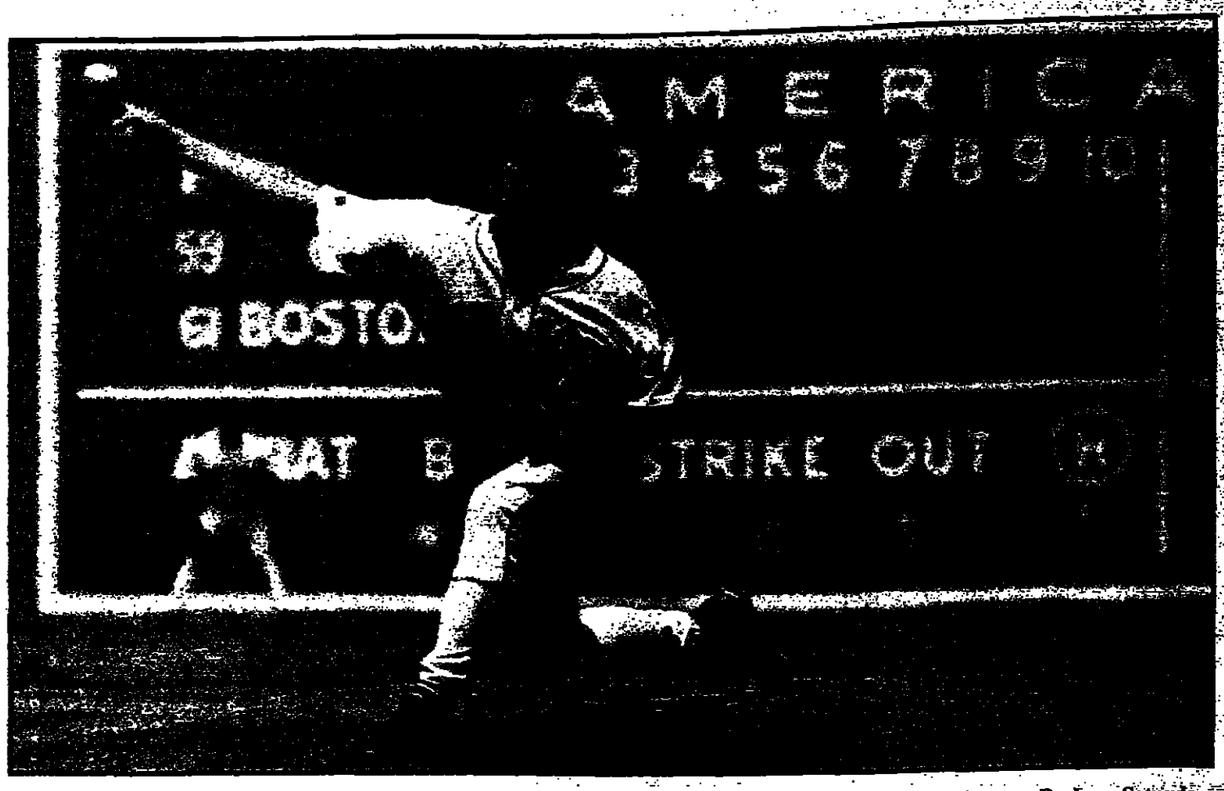
TEAM BATTING

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Houston	2914	473	810	86	436	.277
Atlanta	2927	462	813	119	453	.277
Philadelphia	2907	395	805	66	379	.276
Colorado	3016	405	832	91	391	.275
San Francisco	3026	425	813	71	399	.268
Chicago	2936	427	781	105	408	.266
St. Louis	2897	420	769	105	406	.265
San Diego	2955	427	771	80	409	.260
Milwaukee	2840	368	741	75	352	.260
Cincinnati	2953	360	769	69	350	.260
New York	2702	349	685	57	328	.253
Pittsburgh	2905	334	734	52	315	.252
Los Angeles	2918	364	732	81	344	.250
Arizona	2923	354	725	92	331	.248
Florida	2878	363	711	64	339	.247
Montreal	2807	308	691	73	284	.246

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 200 plate appearances

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Bjordan Stl.	288	49	99	14	54	.344
Bichette Col	360	53	122	11	67	.339
DeBell Hou	333	62	111	12	62	.333
MaGrace ChC	324	51	108	8	48	.333
Kendall Fla	289	47	96	5	39	.332
LWalker Col	238	52	79	9	33	.332
Olerud NYM	270	39	89	7	46	.330
Gwynn SD	280	43	92	7	45	.329
Everett Hou	229	39	75	8	45	.328
Morandini ChC	296	54	96	4	31	.324
Sosa ChC	330	66	107	33	81	.324
Biggio Hou	333	74	108	11	48	.324
DYoung Cin	300	40	95	8	39	.317
Alou Hou	303	48	96	19	71	.317
DeShields Stl.	285	50	90	3	29	.316
Weiss Atl	206	45	65	0	17	.316
Loretta Mil	178	22	56	2	28	.315
Jefferies Phi	305	46	96	6	37	.315
Abreu Phi	264	33	83	6	37	.314
Joyner SD	245	40	77	6	48	.314
JLopez Atl	256	37	80	19	61	.312
McGwire Stl.	263	69	82	37	87	.312
VGuerrero Mon	322	54	100	14	45	.311
Castilla Col	345	57	107	25	75	.310
Allensworth Pit	233	30	72	3	24	.309
Glanville Phi	359	64	111	6	30	.309
Grilli Mil	307	48	95	6	34	.309
Chjones Atl	330	68	102	21	69	.309
Galarraga Atl	303	63	93	27	71	.307
Piazza NYM	297	43	91	14	47	.306
Rolen Phi	326	59	99	16	58	.304
Taubensee Cin	250	34	76	6	43	.304
JGuillen Pit	290	34	88	7	38	.303
Renteria Fla	330	52	100	1	21	.303
Mueller SF	315	56	95	6	33	.302
BBrown Cin	236	41	71	11	33	.301
JKent SF	256	38	77	7	49	.301
Sheffield LA	279	45	84	14	59	.301
RSanchez SF	190	22	57	2	22	.300
Hayes SF	180	20	54	5	36	.300
Vina Mil	334	53	100	4	19	.299
Grissom Mil	261	24	78	5	38	.299
Spiers Hou	209	36	62	2	26	.297
RWhite Mon	307	44	91	16	51	.296
Aurilia SF	235	38	69	7	35	.294
Gutierrez Hou	235	24	69	0	19	.294
GVaughn SD	313	63	92	28	71	.294
DWhite Ari	330	52	97	13	46	.294
Baerga NYM	275	26	80	9	37	.291
Bellacicco Ari	214	24	62	5	31	.290
Fullmer Mon	288	26	83	6	39	.288
Oferas SD	278	44	80	2	26	.288
DHamilton SF	288	51	83	1	22	.288
Kotsay Fla	303	45	87	5	32	.287
Relaford Phi	244	25	70	3	18	.287
Klesko Atl	253	43	72	13	47	.285
BBoone Cin	330	36	94	11	49	.285
Karros LA	221	23	63	8	41	.285
BLarkin Cin	288	48	82	6	34	.285
JHernandez ChC	215	34	61	12	39	.284
ECYoung LA	269	51	76	2	18	.283
Tucker Atl	253	37	71	11	36	.281
Mondesi LA	327	50	92	19	49	.281
Bonds SF	295	56	83	18	59	.281
TLee Ari	329	42	92	17	46	.280
Lockhart Atl	239	35	67	6	28	.280
CHernandez SD	214	25	60	6	26	.280
Bagwell Hou	258	66	72	19	55	.279
Javier SF	273	32	76	1	34	.278
NPerez Col	340	42	94	5	27	.276
AFox Ari	233	28	64	6	16	.275
Floyd Fla	313	49	86	14	57	.275
Helton Col	267	38	73	12	44	.273
Brogna Phi	293	46	80	13	66	.273
MWilliams Ari	316	48	86	14	41	.272
Burnitz Mil	310	54	84	18	58	.271
Alfonzo NYM	248	42	67	6	37	.270
Burks Col	286	38	77	13	47	.269
WGreene Cin	270	41	72	10	36	.267
Caminiti SD	221	40	59	11	43	.267
Gaetti Stl.	236	31	63	7	32	.267
NYoung Pit	319	42	85	16	54	.266
RLankford Stl.	256	42	68	11	38	.266
Mabry Stl.	204	24	54	6	28	.265
AJones Atl	304	45	80	12	44	.263
Vizcaino LA	237	30	62	3	29	.262
Lansing Col	322	34	84	4	26	.261
Reynes Cin	250	38	65	6	19	.260
RSanders Cin	251	31	65	9	38	.259
Zeile Fla	309	44	80	10	49	.259
Gomez SD	244	31	62	2	22	.254
Lieberthal Phi	265	32	67	8	42	.253
Collier Pit	183	14	46	1	16	.251
Hunsley NYM	268	33	66	10	44	.246
GrudzielanekMon	318	36	78	5	23	.245
Womack Pit	357	44	87	1	27	.244
MLewis Phi	287	32	70	6	34	.244
SFinley SD	340	53	82	6	37	.241
IRodriguez ChC	263	36	63	19	51	.240
Clayton Stl.	267	43	64	2	24	.240
Andrews Mon	247	23	59	14	30	.239
Ausmus Hou	214	30	51	4	20	.238
Santangelo Mon	271	37	64	3	11	.236
JBell Ari	305	49	72	11	36	.236
Snow SF	234	37	55	10	45	.235
AMartin Pit	289	36	68	7	26	.235
McRae NYM	260	40	61	10	33	.235
Gilkey NYM	209	27	49	3	22	.234
BJohnson SF	185	20	43	9	22	.232
Counsell Fla	248	34	57	3	30	.230
Blauser ChC	249	37	57	1	16	.229
ROrdonez NYM	263	22	60	0	21	.228
Widger Mon	264	21	60	9	29	.227
JsValentin Mil	260	39	59	13	37	.227
Bonilla LA	198	18	45	5	25	.227
Vidro Mon	184	23	41	0	17	.223
Gant Stl.	188	27	40	12	29	.213



NEW BLOOD – Red Sox pitcher Jin Ho Cho pitches against the White Sox in second-inning action at Fenway Park on Saturday. It was Cho's first start since being called up from the minors. Chicago won 3-0. (Reuters)

Yankees raise mark to 60-20 after whipping Orioles

NEW YORK (AP) – The New York Yankees became the first team in 86 years to win 60 of its first 80 games, using Orlando Hernandez's pitching and Chad Curtis' two-run single in the sixth to beat the Baltimore Orioles 4-3 Saturday.

The Yankees joined the 1912 New York Giants, 1907 Chicago Cubs and 1902 Pittsburgh Pirates as the only teams in modern major league history to start the season 60-20.

Hernandez (3-1), the Cuban defector who was spending his first Independence Day in this country, allowed six hits and two walks in eight innings. Mariano Rivera got his 21st save.

Blue Jays 8, Devil Rays 0

Chris Carpenter pitched a four-hitter and Carlos Delgado had two homers and five RBIs as Toronto handed visiting Tampa Bay its fifth straight loss.

Carpenter (5-3), who allowed seven runs in 2⅓ innings in his last start Saturday against Atlanta, walked two and struck out three in his second shutout of his career.

White Sox 3, Red Sox 0

Chicago's John Snyder outdueled Korean Jin Ho Cho and Mike Cameron hit a solo homer in the top of the fifth to give the White Sox the win in a matchup of pitchers making their first major league starts.

Boston's Nomar Garciaparra went 0-for-2, ending his 24-game hitting streak, the longest in the majors this season.

Tigers 4, Twins 2

Justin Thompson won his sixth straight road start, limiting the Twins to eight hits in eight-plus innings as Detroit won its fourth in five games.

Thompson (7-8) matched a season high with eight strikeouts and allowed only one walk. The left-hander, 7-2 on the road and 0-6 at Tiger Stadium, left after allowing consecutive singles to open the nin

CRITICS' CHOICE



Robin Williams creating the green goo that becomes 'Flubber'.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Uri Meir leads his Israel Sinfonietta Beersheva in two choral pieces for the season finale. Mozart's *Great* (K. 427) mass will be preceded by Swedish composer Lars Erik Larsson's *God in Disguise* based on poems by Hjalmar Gullberg). The Swedish Joenkeopings Kammerkoer participates as well as several Israeli and international soloists. Tonight at 8 p.m. at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem, tomorrow and Thursday at 8:30 p.m. in Beer Sheva and Saturday at 9 p.m. at the Tel Aviv Museum.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ **FLUBBER** — In this remake of Disney's 1961 hit *The Absent-Minded Professor*, Robin Williams plays a soft-spoken mad scientist type who creates a vat of fantastical bright green goo with the power to send objects flying through space at phenomenal speeds. The movie functions as a fine diversion for little kids. It's like an extended toy commercial, with dozens of variations on the same shtick repeated, and the title "character"–who looks when solid something like a mischievous blob of animate lime jello–able to transmogrify instantaneously and assume any number of funny forms. Whether or not *Flubber* works as a movie in a larger sense is another matter altogether and one that is probably beside the point: kids respond to all that giddy motion and to the rather irresistible idea that this one little ball of fluorescent gunk contains enough zooming energy to wreak complete havoc on its surroundings. (General audiences)

★★★ **THE BOXER** – For all its thematic similarity to other films about "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland, Jim (*In the Name of the Father*) Sheridan's new drama seems different. It's a wearier, more searching attempt to reckon with the idea of tentative peace in the region, and the conclusions we may draw from it are more ambiguous. As a prize fighter just released from jail and his childhood sweetheart, now married to someone else, both Daniel Day-Lewis and Emily Watson give serious, subtle performances, and the intelligence of the script (by Sheridan and his usual collaborator Terry George) is clear. That said, there is something strangely inert about the picture. Aside from a few gripping boxing scenes, the movie works mainly at a theoretical level, and lacks a potent dramatic pulse. We never really understand what motivates Day-Lewis's Danny Flynn. He remains a cipher, and though the decision by the screenwriters to leave out certain details of his political and personal past is understandable, other omissions are more problematic and make it hard to feel strongly for the character. (Parental guidance very strongly advised)

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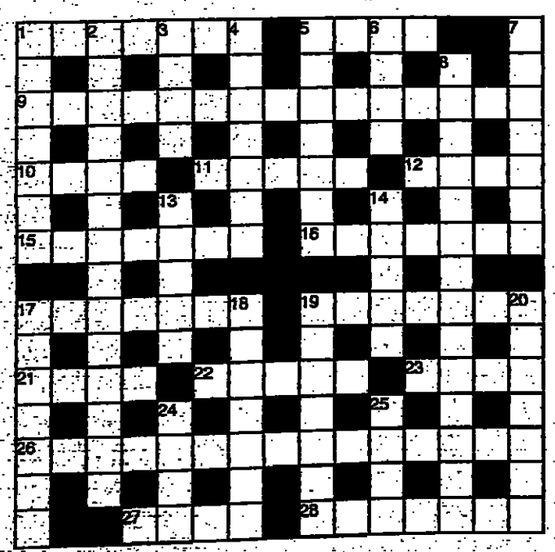
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Girl with a name in new fresco, nothing less (7)
5 Tendency to be crooked (4)
9 Carelessly, can miss so called deliveries (6-5,4)
10 Mid-off takes field in unpleasant jumper (4)
11 Edge of motorway illuminated all round (5)
12 Wife to strike for a shoulder-stole? (4)
15 Lower or lengthen dress (3,4)
16 Stern champion showing wry face (7)
17 Tangle we eased out? (7)
19 Hounds in British estate (7)
21 Bottle of Greek and Italian vermouth (4)
22 Loud stringed instrument that is played in the wind (5)
23 Sated in dreadful luncheon (4)
26 Accomplished event, going too far in darkroom (15)
27 River erosion (4)
28 Shoots for greens? (7)

DOWN

1 Maximum holding of western dollars? (7)
2 American intern treated this old hearty (7,7)
3 Traffic-marker once damaged (4)
4 Notices torn up in passage (7)
5 Attitude of relation? (7)
6 Smell of one's cooking (4)
7 Cuts in energy twice bring blackout (7)
8 Agency of Foreign Office supporting alliance (8,6)
13 Boudoir of a cellist, say? (5)
14 Original tree on street (5)
17 How to address Italian chap in foreign regions (7)
18 Knocked up for rescue (7)
19 Tablets dished out in Bosworth and Hastings, possibly (7)
20 Presents arms with an instrument on board (7)
24 Advantage of the bearded, generally? (4)
25 Spring's incentive, fame (4)



SOLUTIONS

BLAZINGTHETRAIL
RLMOAOME
ORLEANSLOGGING
AONPISAA
OLIVEBOBBYABEL
LESRUMLS
YORKISTTRAPEZE
SEN T
POPOVERBROUGHT
ELEARAL
AJARSTASHBLUE
KTFRSSAM
ISOLATEOCTETTE
NOIAOEN
GENERATINGPLANT

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Plaice, 7 Setting, 8 Reckoned, 9 Spoor, 10 Miser, 11 Soil, 12 Legal, 15 Cobol, 16 Royal, 19 Mail, 20 Pance, 21 Scoop, 22 Ethereal, 23 Dignity, 24 Snared.
DOWN: 1 Paramour, 2 Ancestry, 3 Choir, 4 Red, 5 Staple, 6 Angola, 7 Sensibility, 9 Sill, 13 Grandeur, 14 Levelled, 15 Clap, 17 Orchid, 18 Amount, 20 Paean, 22 Eta.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

5 Shots in unison (5)
8 Recently (8)
9 Out-and-out, blunt (5)
10 Loud noise (8)
11 Lazy person (5)
14 Devoured (8)
16 English river (6)
17 Disposition (6)
18 Free (3)
20 Bedaub (5)
24 Precision (8)
25 Obscure, confused (5)
26 Man with two wives at once (8)
27 Large ray (5)

DOWN

1 Not busy (5)
2 Wander off (5)
3 Cry of horse (5)
4 Boast, flourish (6)
6 Corrective remedy (8)
7 Backbone (8)
12 Co-operation of group (8)
13 Edible snail (8)
14 Scottish port (3)
15 Ambition (3)
19 Bones of the pelvic girdle (6)
21 Wall painting (5)
22 Swift (5)
23 Japanese city (5)

TV

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ **EDUCATIONAL TV (11)**

8:00 Vacation TV
9:45 Hobberdy Dick
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
11:50 Platfus
12:00 Vacation TV
14:30 Star Trek – Deep Space 9
15:15 Spaceship Earth

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

15:30 Zap Free
15:35 X Men
15:56 Zap – Country Vacation
16:05 Lassie
16:30 Zap – Festival at Chevrolet
16:45 Zap – seaside vacation
16:59 New Evening
17:35 Zap Free
17:50 USA High – new series
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Sport
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Moment in Life
19:35 Cosby – The Two
Hilton Lucases
20:00 News
20:10 LA Heat
21:00 News
21:45 Popolitica
23:15 Eleftheria Arvanitaki
00:00 News
00:05 Verse of the Day

■ **CHANNEL 2 (22)**

5:45 Today's Programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 Animation
6:30 Rainbow Children
6:43 This Morning
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 Rich Man Poor Man
10:50 Scooby Doo
11:16 Dumb and Dumber Animated
11:40 Top Secret
12:10 Johnny Quest
12:33 Ellen Cleghorne
13:00 My Secret Identity
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Calculated Risk
14:30 Sesame Street
15:00 Major Dad
15:28 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Rafi Reshef
17:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
18:00 The World's Dumbest Criminals
18:05 Relativity
19:00 Walker Texas Ranger
20:00 News
20:30 An Unusual Evening
21:27 Blind Date
22:05 On the Map
23:20 Murder One
00:00 News
00:05 Murder One – cont.
00:23 The Paper-Boy (1994) – an unassuming paper boy murders an elderly woman and then tries to lure her daughter to his house. With Alexander Powell and Mark Marrot
2:01 Story Tellers Festival
2:42 Anything But Love
3:07 Arad Festival '97
3:55 On the Edge of the Shelf

■ **JORDAN TV (31)** (unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Barney's Friends
15:30 The Worst Day of My Life
16:00 Neighbors
16:30 The Last Frontier
17:00 Thalassa
18:00 Acapulco Bay
19:00 Le Journal
19:15 Cinque et Cinque
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 Hope and Gloria
20:00 Perspective
20:30 War Lord
21:10 Rescue Force 991
22:00 News in English
22:30 Law & Order
23:10 Bay Watch Nights

■ **MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)**

14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
15:30 The 700 Club
16:00 Larry King
17:00 Flying House
17:20 Wishkid
17:45 McGee and Me
18:10 Jack Hanna
18:35 Wait Till You Have Kids
19:00 Showbiz
19:30 World News Tonight
20:00 NHL - Washington vs Buffalo
23:00 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN

■ **ITV 3 (33)**

16:00 Cartoons
16:45 Amores
17:30 Panorama
18:00 Wiseman of the Generations
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 Auto Classics
20:00 Entertainment Now
20:30 Great Romances of the Twentieth Century
21:00 News
21:30 Three Cases of Murder (1955) – classic British thriller featuring Orson Welles as the narrator of three murder cases, all focusing on a sudden and mysterious death. With Alan Badel, Maxwell Reed and Emrys Jones
22:10 Jazz into the Night

■ **ETV 2 (23)**

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Summer Studio
16:45 Local Pop
17:00 Charlotte
17:30 Didavision
18:00 Zombit
18:30 Today's Health
19:00 Nature of Healing
19:30 Mind Your Language
20:00 A New Evening
20:30 A Woman's Angle
21:00 Sterilization of Leilani Muir
22:00 Star Trek – Deep Space 9
22:45 Assignment Adventure

CABLE

■ **CHANNEL 3**

7:00 EITV: The Hottest Clubs
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live
9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt)
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Angels Don't Cry
12:00 The Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 The John Larroquette Show
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 The Other Half
18:00 Trivia King (rpt)
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Beverly Hills 90210
20:25 Third Rock from the Sun
20:50 Just Shoot Me
21:10 The Larry Sanders Show
21:35 Seinfeld
22:00 Suddenly Susan
22:30 Seinfeld (rpt)
23:00 Ricki Lake
23:45 Sentinel
00:30 Babylon 5
1:20 The Love Boat

■ **MOVIE CHANNEL (4)**

11:30 Running Wild (1997) – a woman whose daughter has run away from home tracks her down and finds her in the clutches of an evil crook. With Morgan Fairchild
13:10 Pirates of the Prairie (1942) – a deputy marshal is sent under cover to find out why vigilantes have been terrorizing a small town. With Tim Holt, Cliff Edwards and Ray Barcroft
14:15 Road Agent (1952) – two cowboys pose as masked riders to fight a tyrannical land boss. With Tim Holt and Richard Martin
15:15 Seeing Stars with Christian Slater
15:45 Fool's Paradise (1997) – romantic comedy about a government bureaucrat who decides to embezzle foreign-aid funds for a small island republic. With Taylor Dayne, Corey Parker and Leslie Stefanso
17:10 Seeing Stars: With Demi Moore
17:40 Mr. and Mrs. Loving (1995) – drama based on the real-life story of a 1950s interracial couple who faced exile or prison because of laws against racial intermingling. Their case led to landmark Supreme Court decision that tossed out racial laws. With Timothy Hutton, Lela Rochon and Ruby Dee
19:20 Renegade
20:10 8 Seconds to Glory (1994) – a biopic on the life of rodeo champion Lane Frost. With Luke Perry and Stephen Baldwin
22:00 Corrina, Corrina (1994) – a young widower in the 1950s hires a housekeeper to help take care of his daughter, and she becomes very important in their lives. With Whoopi Goldberg, Ray Liotta and Don Ameche
00:00 Total Force (1997) – a scientist invents a device that turns people into ruthless killers and uses them to fight the authorities that try and stop him. With Timothy Bottoms
1:35 Last Lives (1997) – a telepathic terrorist from a parallel universe kidnaps a woman on her wedding day and murders the groom, who is then restored to life and hunts him down. With C. Thomas Howell
3:10 Street Knight (1993, 86 mins.) – martial arts thriller. An ex-policeman takes on two street gangs fighting each other

■ **CHILDREN (6)**

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 The Muddies
8:35 Willy Fog
9:00 The Smurfs
9:25 Bigbugs
9:35 Ninja Turtles
10:10 Zorro
10:40 Twins of Destiny
11:05 Hot-Air Balloon
11:15 Viewer's choice comedy
11:50 Hot-air Balloon
12:00 Sweet Valley High
12:30 The Secret World of Alex
13:00 Bobby's World
13:25 Power Rangers
13:45 Helen and the Boys
14:10 Chiquititas
15:05 Ninja Turtles
15:35 Zorro
16:05 Twins of Destiny
16:35 Hot-air Balloon
16:45 viewers' choice
17:30 Sweet Valley High
18:00 The Secret World of Alex
18:30 Willy Fog
19:00 The Smurfs
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:45 Full House
21:10 Beverly Hills 90210

■ **SECOND SHOWING (6)**

22:00 A Little Romance (1979) – engaging drama about the relationship between a young American girl in Paris and a charming French boy who are chaperoned and encouraged by a wily old con man. With Laurence Olivier, Diane Lane, Thelonious Bernard and Sally Kellerman
23:45 1871 (1989, 95 mins.) – historical drama examining the changes in Napoleonic France through a play at the famous Rumbeaud theater. With Roshan Seth and John Lynch. Directed by Ken McMullen

■ **CHANNEL 8**

6:00 Open University (rpts)
8:05 I, Caesar (rpt)
8:55 Wings of the Red Star (rpt)
9:50 Percel: The Fairy Queen – opera based on Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*
12:05 Floyd on Africa (rpt)
12:35 Great Palaces: Hampton Court (rpt)
13:05 Far Flung Floyd (rpt)
13:40 Ultrascience: Invaders (rpt)
14:10 Trial Stories: Rodriguez vs. Suico (rpt)
15:05 The Complainers
16:00 Wild Horizons: Racoon Dog (rpt)
16:30 Travel Magazine
17:00 Open University: Losing War with Japan
18:00 Open University: Portrait of a Family
18:25 Open University: Faces of Culture
19:05 Spirits of the Jaguar – new series covering the history of the ancient civilizations of Central America using advanced technology to bring them back to "life"
20:00 Far Flung Floyd: West Malaysia
20:30 Ultrascience: Impossible Dreams
21:00 Trial Stories: NY vs. Nelson
21:50 Over the Rainbow
22:45 Wild Horizons: Heaven on Earth?
23:15 Travel Magazine
23:40 Open University: Sexual Imperative
00:30 Open University: Born Talking

■ **STAR WORLD (18/15)**

6:00 Molly Katzen's Cooking Show
6:30 Fawlty Towers
7:00 Bergerac
8:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
9:00 Santa Barbara
10:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
10:30 Fashion TV
11:00 Fawlty Towers
11:30 Molly Katzen's Cooking Show
12:00 Spiderman
12:30 Small Wonder
13:00 Batman
13:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
14:00 The Simpsons
14:30 The Wonder Years
15:00 Due South
16:00 Peak Practice
17:00 The Ridge
18:00 Santa Barbara
19:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
19:30 The Simpsons
20:00 Due South
21:00 Peak Practice
22:00 The Ridge
23:00 All Creatures Great and Small
00:00 Bergerac
1:00 Aerobics Oz Style
1:30 Terry Toons
2:00 The Incredible Hulk
2:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
3:00 Yan Can Cook, Best of China
3:30 Aerobics Oz Style

■ **BBC WORLD (13/14)**

News on the hour
6:30 Asia Today
6:45 USA Direct
7:30 Correspondent (rpt)
8:30 Earth Report: Vietnam (rpt)
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 Future Fantastic: Weird Science (rpt)
11:30 Correspondent (rpt)
12:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
13:30 Jeremy Clarkson's Extreme Machines (rpt)
14:00 The World Today
15:30 The Call of Kakadu, part 1
16:30 The World Today
17:30 Film '98 (rpt)
18:30 Hard Talk
19:30 Style!
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 Window on Europe
23:00 World News and Business Report
23:30 The Travel Show
00:10 Europe Direct
1:15 World News and Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (rpt)
2:05 USA Direct
2:30 Correspondent
3:30 Earth Report (rpt)

■ **CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)**

6:30 This Week in the NBA
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Best of Insight (rpt)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Managing with Lou Dobbs
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 World Cup Weekly
11:00 Newsstand CNN & Time
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Pinnacle Europe
15:15 News & Business Asia
16:30 CNN Newsroom
17:30 World Sport
18:30 The Art Club
19:00 Impact
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
2:30 Moneyline

■ **CHANNEL 5**

2:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 Candid Camera
17:00 Xtreme Sports
17:30 WNBA
19:00 Xtreme Sports
19:30 The Survivors
20:00 Candid Camera
20:30 Sporting Profiles
21:00 Women's Gymnastics
22:00 International Journal
23:00 Game by Order

■ **EUROSPORT (15/16)**

9:30 Soccer – World Cup Premiere (rpt)
11:30 Motorcycling
13:00 Athletics
14:00 Duathlon
15:00 Tennis
15:30 Soccer – World Cup Le Mix
18:30 Supersport
19:00 Superbike
21:00 Xtrem Sports
22:00 Soccer: world semi-finals
23:00 Sumo
00:00 Boxing
1:00 Superbike

RADIO

■ **VOICE OF MUSIC**

6:05 Mendelssohn: String Symphony no 6 ; Brahms: Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Handel op 24 (Schiff); Mendelssohn: String Symphony no 1
7:07 Frescobaldi: Canzona / la Primavera / Capriccio (Canticum / Ghielmi); Dall'Aquila: Lute pieces (Wilson); Boccherini: Symphony no 24 in A major (London Festival Orch / Pople); Da-Camera: Ricercare / Saltarella dances / Chanson (Wilson)
8:05 Reger: Preludes and Fugues in G minor op 17 no 2 and no 5 Martinu: Madrigal-Sonata for Flute, Violin and Piano; Hindemith: Sonata for Viola and Piano op 11 no 4 (Imai / Pontinen); Martinu: 4 Preludes (Kavapil)
9:05 Contemporary works
12:00 Light Classical - selected pieces from Mozart's Die Zauberflote
13:00 Artist of the Week – Yaron Windmuller, baritone. Bach: Cantata no 203 (Shemer / Silber); Beethoven: An die ferne Geliebte op 98 (Fish); Monteverdi: Se pur destina (Shemer); Rihm: Neue Alexanderlieder (Bauni)
14:06 Encore
15:00 The Romantic Concerto
16:00 Early music
17:00 Elnahta – (1) The Atlas Camerate Orchestra / Dahlia Atlas. Avni: Prayer; Mozart: Divertimento in F major K138; Elgar: Serenade in E minor op 20; Nal: Elegy; Bloch: Concerto Grosso no 2; Bloch: second movement: Allegro Frenetico, from String Quartet no 1; (2) Beethoven: Bagatelles op 119 and 126
19:00 Rainbow of Sounds
20:05 Weber: Bassoon Concerto op 75; Schumann: Symphony no 1 op 38 "Spring"
21:00 A Matter of Agreement
23:00 Just Jazz

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Moment in Life Cosby News LA Heat		Beverly Hills 90210		Family Matters Married with Children	Far Flung Floyd
20:00		News		8 Seconds to Glory	The Fresh Prince of Bel Air Full House	Ultrascience
20:30		An Unusual Evening	Third Rock from the Sun Just Shoot Me			Trial Stories
21:00	News		The Larry Sanders Show Seinfeld		Beverly Hills 90210	
21:30		Blind Date				Over the Rainbow
22:00	Popolitica	On the Map	Suddenly Susan	Corrina, Corrina	A Little Romance	
22:30			Seinfeld			Wild Horizons
23:00			Ricki Lake			

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎6788448 Red Corner 7:15, 10 • Mousehunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • US Marshals 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 • City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Grease-∞Mercury Rising 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Deep Impact 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 ∞Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Blues Brothers 2000 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10
JERUSALEM THEATER On connait la chanson 7, 9:30; ∞The Spanish Prisoner 7, 9:30
RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot
Mimic∞Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 8:45, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m., 5, 8:45 • Primary Colors 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 7:15 • Great Expectations 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 5 • Mr. Magoo 11 a.m. • Flubber 11 a.m., 4:45 ∞Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11. 5
MEVASSERET ZION
G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 Mercury Rising∞Red Corner 4:45, 7:15, 10 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618168 Kundun 7:30, 10 • Welcome to the Doll House 5:45
TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Kissing A Fool 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 8, 10 • On connait la chanson 11 a.m., 3:15, 8, 10 • Spanish Prisoner 1, 5:30, 8, 10 • Spice World 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30
GAT ☎8967888 The Horse Whisperer F3:15, 6:30, 9:45 **GLOBUS** Red Corner∞U.S. Marshals 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Grease∞Mercury Rising 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Deep Impact 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt∞City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30 10 **G.G. HOD 1-4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. L.A. Confidential 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Live Flesh∞Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • Boys of the Black Circle F5, 7:30, 10 **LEV** ☎5288288 Kundun 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Sweet Hereafter 2, 7:30, 10 • Go Now 12, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10 • Night Train 11:30 a.m., 5
LEV AVIV Credit Card Reservations ☎5416841 Kundun 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Sweet Hereafter 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:15, 10 • Touching Beauty 5, 10 • Welcome to the Doll House 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Orchestra 11 a.m., 5, 10 • Antonia's Line 11:15 a.m., 2:30, 7:30 • The Thief 2:45, 7:30
LIMOR ☎6966084 Shall We Dance 6, 9:45 • Empire of the Senses 8 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 Red Corner 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30; • Grease∞City of Angels 5, 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 5, 7:30, 10
RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 • Mimic 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 • Picture Perfect 2:30, 5, 7:30 • Primary Colors 7:15, 9:45 • Scream 2 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* • Flubber 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102674 Opera House Jackie Brown 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Great Expectations∞The Full Monty 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Boogie Nights 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Titanic 5:15, 9
TEL AVIV
MUSEUM Gadjo Dilo 5, 8, 10
HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 8325755 Kundun 7:30, 9:30 • Live Flesh 7:15, 9:15 • On Connait la chanson Fri. 10:15; Sat. 7:15, 9:15; Thu. Sun-Wed. 7:15, 9:15 **CINE-MATHEQUE** The Three Musketeers 7 • Love and Death on Long Island 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 Grease∞Mercury Rising∞City of Angels 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Red Corner∞Deep Impact 7:15, 10 • Blues Brother 2000 11:30 a.m., 4:30 • Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10; **RAV-CHEN** ☎8500055 The Wedding Singer ∞The Full Monty∞Mimic 5, 7:15, 9:30 • As Good As It Gets∞Primary Colors 4:15, 7, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 9:30 • Titanic 11 a.m., 4:45, 8:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Mulan *(English dialogue)* ∞Mimic 7:15, 9:30. • Titanic 11 a.m., 5:30 • The Wedding Singer∞Great Expectations 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • As Good As It Gets 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞Flubber 11 a.m., 1, 5 • Mr. Magoo 11 a.m., 1 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 The Horse Whisperer 5 6, 9:15 • Great Expectations 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30
AFULA
RAV CHEN Good Will Hunting7, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 45 • Flubber 11 a.m., 5 • Anastasia*(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m.
ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Red Corner∞Primary Colors 7:30, 10 • Deep Impact 5:30 • Flubber∞Spice World 5:30 • Mercury Rising 7:30, 10
ARIEL
Titanic 7
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 Deep Impact ∞Kissing A Fool∞City of Angels4:45, 7:15, 10 **ORI** ☎8568073 Grease ∞Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • Spice World 11:30 a.m. **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Great Expectations∞The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m., 4:45, 8:30 • As Good As It Gets 7:15, 9:45 • Mimic 7:30, 9:45 • Flubber∞Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 City of Angels ∞Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Spice World 11:30 a.m. • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Mercury Rising 11:30 a.m., 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 Good Will Hunting 11, 5, 7:15, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 • Great Expectations∞The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mimic 7:30, 9:45 • Flubber 11 a.m., 4:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 Kissing A Fool ∞City of Angels 7:30, 9:45 • Great Expectations 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Grease∞Flubber 11 a.m., 5 • Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mimic 7:30, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m.; • Lady and the Tramp *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5
BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 Kissing the Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Red Cover 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Spice World 11:30 a.m. • City of Angels 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • Mimic∞Great Expectations 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer∞Flubber∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:45 ∞Mimic∞Mulan *(English dialogue)* 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:45 • Flubber 5
EILAT
GIL ☎6340182 Kissing A Fool∞Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Mercury Rising 10
HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 City of Angels 5, 7:30, 10 • Mimic∞Good Will Hunting 5, 7:15, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5
HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:45 • Primary Colors 5, 7:30, 10:15
DANIEL ☎ 9544044 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45
STAR ☎ 9589068 Mercury Rising 7:30, 10 • Spice World 11 a.m., 5:30 • Mouse Hunt∞Kissing A Fool 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10
HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Red Corner 7:15, 10 • Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 10 • Flubber∞Spice World 11:30 a.m., 5
HOLON
STAR Primary Colors∞As Good As It Gets 7:15, 10 • Great Expectations 11:30 a.m, 7:30, 10 • Spice World 5 • Titanic 11 a.m., 5, 9 • The Lady and The Tramp∞Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 Picture Perfect ∞Good Will Hunting 7, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞Flubber 11 a.m., 5 • The Wedding Singer . 11 a.m., 4:15 **KFAR SAVA**
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2 • Red Corner 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Blues Brothers 2000∞Flubber 11:30 a.m., 2 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30 • Good Will Hunting 10
KIRYAT BIALIK
KIRYON City of Angels∞Mouse Hunt ∞Grease 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Deep Impact ∞Kissing A Fool 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mercury Rising∞US Marshals 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Blues Brothers 2000∞Flubber 11 a.m., 4:30 • As Good As It Gets∞Red Corner 7, 9:30 • Titanic 9 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:30 • Spiceworld11 a.m.
KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6906080 Mimic∞Blues Brothers 2000 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Flubber ∞Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m.
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 Mimic 4:30, 7, 10• Grease∞Mercury Rising∞Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Blues Brothers 2000 11:30 a.m., 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Spice World∞Flubber 11:30 a.m., 4:30
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Mouse Hunt ∞Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Red Corner 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:50 • City of Angels • 5, 7:30, 10 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m.
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 City of Angels ∞Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Great Expectations ∞Mimic∞Mulan *(English dialogue)* 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:45 • Flubber 5
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 Red Corner∞City of Angels 7:15, 10 • Kissing A Fool∞Grease 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:15, 10 • Spice World 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Flubber F 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 Mimic 5, 7:30, 10; Wed. 10 • Great Expectations 5, 7:30, 10; Wed. 5, 7:30 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10
**

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Reds deal Shaw to LA
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Maccabi in EuroLeague draw
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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Orl Lewis

Clemens reaches 3,000 strikeouts

TORONTO (AP) – Roger Clemens became the 11th pitcher to get 3,000 strikeouts and Tony Fernandez hit an RBI single in the eighth inning yesterday as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 2-1.

Clemens, who got a no-decison, struck out seven to give him 3,002 for his career. After striking out two batters in the first inning, Clemens struck out Mike DiFelice, Miguel Cairo and Randy Winn in order in the third to reach 3,000.

Yankees 1, Orioles 0

David Cone became the second 12-game winner in the AL as the New York Yankees matched the best 81-game start in major league history with a home victory.

New York won its sixth straight, 10th in the last 11 games and improved to 61-20.

The Yankees took a 1-0 lead in the third inning. Luis Sojo and Paul O'Neill singled with one out. Scott Erickson (8-7) struck out Tino Martinez before walking Tim Raines to load the bases.

Erickson then hit Chad Curtis on the hand to force in the only run.

In the National League, it was Marlins 2, Expos 1; Phillies 4, Brewers 3 and Braves 3, Mets 2.

Saturday's baseball, Page 22

Sampras wins fifth Wimbledon title

World No. 1 tied for second place with 11 Grand Slam wins

WIMBLEDON (AP) – Pete Sampras lifted the champion's trophy on Center Court for the fifth time, matching Bjorn Borg's modern record and moving within one victory of the all-time Grand Slam mark.

Sampras won the tournament for the fifth time in six years yesterday with a 6-7(7-2), 7-6(11-9), 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 triumph over Goran Ivanisevic.

When Ivanisevic sailed a backhand long on the first match point, Sampras responded in relatively subdued fashion, holding up his arms and flashing a big smile.

The victory tied Sampras with Borg for the most Wimbledon singles titles of the open era. Borg won five straight from 1976-80.

"It's just really sweet," Sampras said. "I can't believe I've won five of these. ... It's a little overwhelming to think of myself in those terms. I've tried to stay humble through all of my accomplishments. I've got some years left in me where hopefully I can do this again."

Sampras also moved into a second-place tie with Borg and Rod Laver on the all-time list of Grand Slam victories, just one behind the record 12 held by Roy Emerson.

By reasserting his grass-court superiority, and extending his Wimbledon record to 44-2 since 1992, Sampras ended a year-long slump in which he failed to get past the quarterfinals of the last three Grand Slam events.

"The year has been a little bit up and down but I know why," he said. "I had a little bit of burnout. But I knew when Wimbledon came around, this is where it is for me and what it's all about. One thing that elevates my tennis is this place, the court, the historical meaning this place has to me as a kid growing up," he said. "I have no problem getting motivated for this one."

It was the first time Sampras had played a fifth set in a Grand Slam final.

Sampras looked in big trouble after losing the first set and going into a tiebreaker in the second. But he saved two set points in the 'breaker to turn the match around.

"The second set tiebreaker was a huge part of the match," he said. "I got a little lucky out there."

Israeli comes close

Israel's Andy Ram and France's Michael Llodra were runner-ups in the boys' doubles championship. The pair lost to Roger Federer of Switzerland, and Belgium's Olivier Rochus, 6-4, 6-4.

For Ivanisevic, it marked his third defeat in a Wimbledon final. He lost to Andre Agassi in 1992 and Sampras in 1994.

"I had a chance, this was my best chance ever here," Ivanisevic said. "I thought I was going to win this match." Ivanisevic, who had won only one match in his five previous Grand Slam events and was largely overlooked as a contender this year, was devastated by the defeat.

"I know people die, but this is the worst ever," he said. "I don't know how long it's going to take to get over this." Ivanisevic said he would have won the match had he taken the second set. He blamed his fifth-set fade on the marathon 28-game fifth set in his semifinal win over Richard Krajicek.

"The Krajicek match cost me this fifth set," he said. "I was more tired than him. My legs didn't listen."

The match was dominated by big serves and featured few extended rallies, another example of the power tennis which has typified Wimbledon finals in the 1990s.

Ivanisevic had 32 aces and Sampras had 12. But the key statistic was Ivanisevic's 20 double faults.

The match was settled in the sixth game of the fifth set when Sampras broke for 4-2, ripping a backhand return at Ivanisevic's feet. The Croatian couldn't dig the ball out, dumping a forehand volley into the net.

After Sampras held for 5-2, a distraught Ivanisevic buried his head in his towel and muttered to himself in Croatian during the changeover. Sampras then broke him at love in the next game to end the 2 hour, 52-minute match.

Ivanisevic said he was so drained he served "like a woman" in the last game – "no pace, nothing there."

Ivanisevic won the first set with a rollercoaster serving show that included 13 aces and nine double faults.

Ivanisevic saved six break points, including four double faults in one game, while Sampras saved three.

The tiebreaker went Ivanisevic's way when he hit a backhand passing shot for a mini-break and 2-0 lead and increased the lead to 5-2 with a forehand winner. He then followed with an ace and a service winner.

The first service break of the match came in the second game of the second set when Sampras, head to head with Ivanisevic across the net, stabbed a reflex backhand volley to go up 2-0.

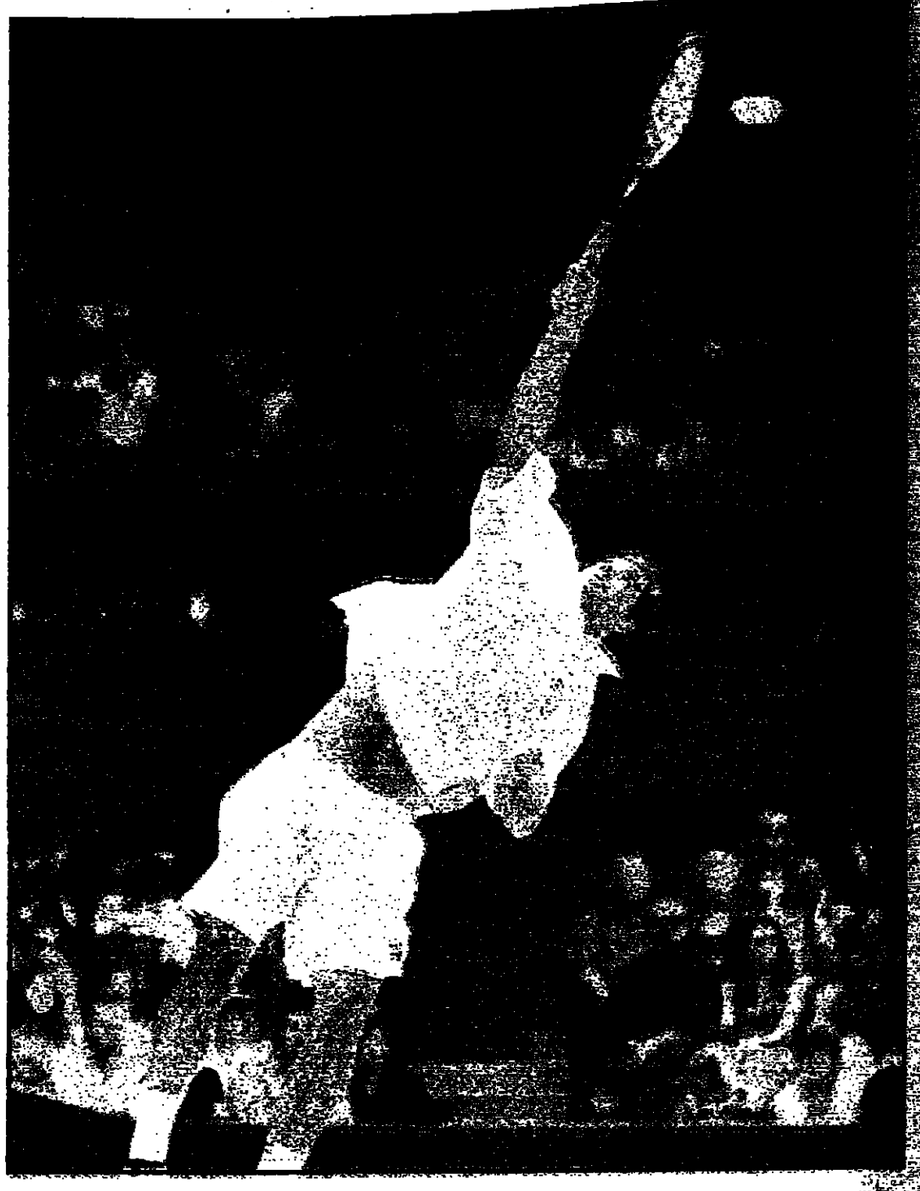
But Ivanisevic broke right back in the next game. It took four break points before he converted by driving a forehand pass down the line.

Sampras didn't serve his first ace until the fifth game of the second set, when he hit three in a row.

Only five points went against serve over the next nine games as the two headed into another tiebreaker.

Sampras saved two set points, while serving at 5-6 and 7-8, both times Ivanisevic failing to take advantage of second serves and hitting high backhand returns into the net.

"Sampras received a winner's check of $722,000, while Ivanisevic collected$361,000.



TAKING THE FIFTH – Pete Sampras serves to Goran Ivanisevic en route to capturing his fifth Wimbledon crown. Ivanisevic's loss to Sampras spoiled Croatian hopes that the country would win not only Wimbledon but the World Cup as well. (Reuters)

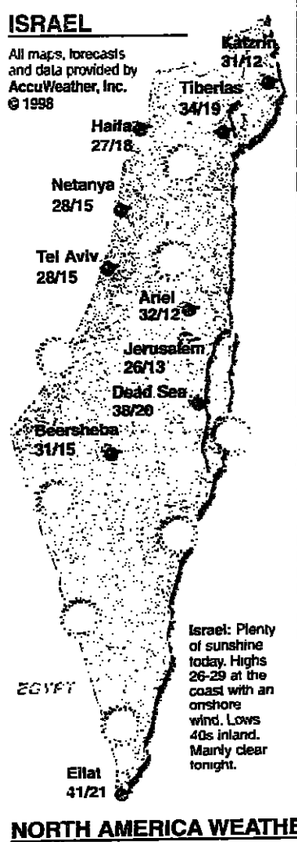
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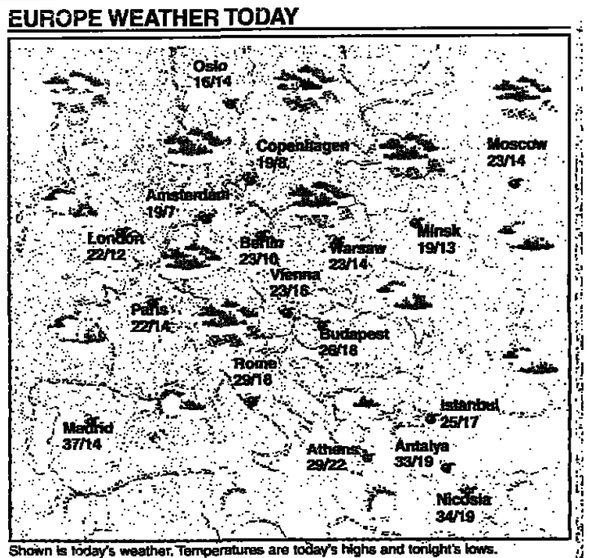
ISRAEL

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Israel: Plenty of sunshine today. Highs 26-29 at the coast with an onshore wind. Lows 40s inland. Mainly clear tonight.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tuesday High C/F	Tuesday Low/W C/F	Wednesday High C/F	Wednesday Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Ariel	32/89	12/53/s	32/89	14/57/s	36/97	17/62/pc	37/98	18/64/pc
Beersheba	31/88	15/59/s	31/88	17/62/s	33/91	20/68/pc	34/93	21/70/pc
Dead Sea	38/100	20/68/s	38/100	22/71/s	41/106	26/79/pc	42/107	27/80/pc
Eilat	41/106	21/70/s	38/100	22/71/s	40/104	26/79/pc	41/106	26/79/pc
Haifa	27/80	18/64/s	28/82	21/70/s	32/89	24/75/pc	33/91	25/77/pc
Jerusalem	26/79	13/55/s	26/79	14/57/s	29/84	17/62/pc	30/86	18/64/pc
Katzrin	31/88	12/53/s	32/89	13/55/s	36/97	17/62/pc	37/98	18/64/pc
Netanya	28/82	15/59/s	28/82	18/64/s	32/89	21/70/pc	33/91	22/71/pc
Tel Aviv	28/82	15/59/s	28/82	18/64/s	32/89	21/70/pc	33/91	21/70/pc
Tiberias	34/93	19/66/s	34/93	22/71/s	38/100	25/77/pc	39/102	26/79/pc

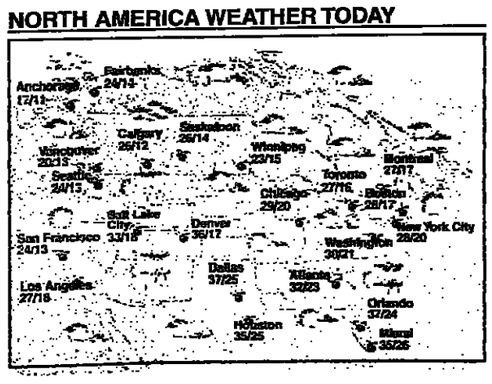
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice.

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INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tuesday High C/F	Tuesday Low/W C/F	Wednesday High C/F	Wednesday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	19/66	7/44/pc	15/59	8/46/c	17/62	11/52/s
Beijing	29/84	23/73/r	29/84	24/75/r	33/91	25/77/c
Berlin	23/73	10/50/sh	18/64	10/50/c	19/66	11/52/pc
Brussels	18/64	9/48/sh	17/62	7/44/pc	17/62	11/52/s
Cairo	34/93	18/64/s	34/93	20/68/s	36/97	23/73/pc
Chicago	29/84	20/68/t	32/89	21/70/pc	32/89	20/68/t
Frankfurt	23/73	11/52/sh	20/68	9/48/pc	21/70	10/50/pc
Hong Kong	29/84	26/79/r	30/86	25/77/pc	30/86	26/79/pc
Johannesburg	22/71	5/41/s	22/71	4/39/s	18/66	3/37/pc
London	22/71	12/53/pc	19/66	10/50/c	22/71	14/57/s
Los Angeles	27/80	18/64/s	33/91	18/64/pc	32/89	17/62/pc
Madrid	37/98	14/57/s	30/86	13/55/s	32/89	16/61/r
Mexico City	22/80	13/55/pc	25/77	14/57/pc	25/77	14/57/s
Montreal	27/80	17/62/pc	28/82	19/66/pc	31/88	21/70/pc
Moscow	23/73	14/57/pc	25/77	16/61/pc	26/79	19/66/pc
New York	26/82	20/68/s	29/84	22/71/pc	32/89	23/73/pc
Paris	22/71	14/57/pc	19/66	8/46/pc	18/66	11/52/s
Prague	18/64	14/57/r	19/66	8/46/c	18/64	7/44/pc
Rio de Janeiro	25/77	18/64/s	26/79	21/70/s	27/80	19/66/pc
Rome	29/84	18/64/s	30/86	19/66/pc	25/79	15/59/pc
Sydney	23/73	9/48/pc	18/64	9/48/s	17/62	10/50/pc
Tokyo	29/84	26/79/sh	30/86	27/80/c	32/89	27/80/c
Toronto	27/80	16/61/pc	31/88	18/64/pc	31/88	17/62/pc
Vienna	23/73	16/61/sh	26/79	16/61/sh	22/71	11/52/pc
Warsaw	23/73	14/57/c	23/73	11/52/pc	21/70	10/50/pc
Washington	30/86	21/70/s	33/91	24/75/pc	34/93	24/75/pc
Zurich	24/75	14/57/pc	19/66	9/48/r	18/64	9/48/pc

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



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TRAVEL WITH THE EXPERTS

Stewart century gives England hope

MANCHESTER (Reuters) – Captain Alec Stewart raised England's hopes of salvaging a draw in the third Test against South Africa by scoring an unbeaten 114 yesterday as the home side finished day four of the match on 211 for two.

Despite being in an apparently hopeless position at the start of their second innings, following on 369 runs behind, England finished the day 158 runs away from making South Africa bat again after being bowled out for just 183 first time around.

Stewart's 11th Test century came during an inspiring partnership with his predecessor as captain, Mike Atherton, who finished the day on 81 not out in a stand of exactly 200 spanning four hours and 24 minutes.

When the two most capped players in the England side came together, the prospect of another four-day defeat loomed large at 11 for two.

With Atherton intent on defense, Stewart counter-attacked with verve and confidence to pass 50 from just 75 balls in under 90 minutes with nine fours.

He moved smoothly to his century with a powerful drive through extra cover off Paul Adams for his 14th four from 178 balls in three hours and 50 minutes.

It was his first century for 17 Tests since his 173 against New Zealand in Auckland ½ years ago.

Atherton, on his home ground, required three minutes over three hours to reach 50 from 121 deliveries with eight boundaries. After a first innings stand of 60, the determination of both men to restore pride was obvious.

England will now hope Atherton and Stewart can bat most of the final day to secure the draw. Intermittent showers were predicted for today.

England second innings

N.Knight c Boucher b Donald	1
M.Atherton not out	81
N.Hussain b Kallis	5
A. Stewart not out	114
Extras (b-8 lb-1 w-1)	10
Total (for two wickets, 81.1 overs)	211

Fall of wickets: 1-4 2-11

To bat: Mark Ramprakash, Graham Thorpe, Dominic Cork, Robert Croft, Ashley Giles, Darren Gough, Angus Fraser

Bowling (to date): Donald 17-5-46-1, Kallis 22.2-10-43-1 (1w), Ntini 12-5-22-0, Adams 21-4-61-0, Klusener 3-0-15-0, Cronje 6-3-15-0

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Shoot-outs elicit high drama



MARSEILLE (Reuters) – There are just four matches to go at the World Cup and the odds say at least one more penalty shootout is on the cards.

France, who have suffered through penalties in the past, this time progressed to the last four via the spot kick failure of Italy's Luigi Di Biagio in Friday's quarterfinal.

"We must be cursed," said coach Cesare Maldini, as 1998 became Italy's third successive tournament to end in a shoot-out defeat after the 1994 final and 1990 semis.

England, who lost the tournament's other shootout to Argentina, also completed a hat-trick of eliminations by penalty after defeats to Germany in the semifinals of the 1990 World Cup and of the 1996 European championship.

FIFA introduced the penalties concept to the World Cup in 1978 after Czechoslovakia won a shoot-out to beat West Germany in the European championship final two years earlier.

Previously there were replays or the toss of a coin. However, the *shootout was not needed until* 1982 when West Germany beat France to decide their semifinal.

In 1986 three of the four quarterfinals went to penalties and in 1990 both semis and two other games went the same way.

Four years ago there were only two – but of course one came in the final where Roberto Baggio's blaze over the bar was practically the only memorable moment in a dire match.

Neither France nor Italy spent time practicing penalties before their quarterfinal shootout.

Most players and managers have the same outlook, not even nominating their preferred takers until after extra-time is finished.

Ireland coach Jack Charlton had a different approach at the 1990 finals. He had his squad regularly practice spot-kicks as a drill – not to improve technique, only to remove doubt.

Each player selected what type of kick he would take and where he would place it – and stuck with it.

When it came to the real thing in the second round against Romania, all five Irishmen were successful. David O'Leary, who hit the fifth and decisive kick, said he was not nervous because he had known for three weeks exactly where he was going to put the ball.

The "roll of shame" contains some of the greatest players of the last 20 years. France's Didier Six will be remembered for his miss against the Germans in 1982 while four years later Michel Platini briefly became mortal when he failed against Brazil.

England's Chris Waddle's shot struck the post a minute from time against Germany in the 1990 semi-final. Even Diego Maradona missed in Argentina's 1990 quarterfinal shoot-out victory over Yugoslavia.

More World Cup, Page 21

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